

Perceived Comfortability of Medical Students Providing Prenatal Care at a Free Clinic

Helena Szymborski, MS-3¹, Katherine Brophy, M.D.²

¹The University of Kansas School of Medicine-Kansas City, Kansas City, Kansas

²The University of Kansas School of Medicine-Kansas City, Kansas City, Kansas, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

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Introduction. Increased resources and knowledge help support medical students in new clinical experiences. There are limited studies assessing the actual effectiveness of education tools to change perceived comfortability amongst medical students. In our study, perceived comfortability was assessed amongst medical students volunteering at a free clinic using pre and post surveys after implementing an educational video.

Methods. An educational video was distributed to medical student volunteers at JayDoc, a student run free clinic, alongside a pre and post survey assessing comfortability providing prenatal care. A Likert scale was used for students to scale their perceived comfortability through a series of survey questions designed to be answered before and after watching the video. Responses were scaled from 1-5 to quantify and assign value to the responses, with 5 being the most comfortable and 1 being the least. An average “difference score” from before to after amongst respondents for each category was calculated. A Shapiro-Wilk normality test was used followed by a Wilcoxon rank test or 2-sided paired T-test for statistical significance.

Results. The study yielded 30 complete responses and 1 incomplete response. A statistically significant increase in medical students’ perceived comfortability was demonstrated in all categories when considering the full respondent group.

Conclusions. This educational video focused on the basics of prenatal care significantly increased the perceived comfortability of medical students providing prenatal care at a free clinic.