Involving Students in IPE Planning: an unexpected initiative advances innovative interprofessional collaboration

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Objective: Describe an unexpected initiative involving public health students that advanced IPE planning for future pharmacy students

The setting:
• Required public health senior practicum
  • Spring 2020
  • Limited traditional opportunities due to COVID19

Who was involved:
• Two pharmacist faculty members
• Three public health students

What happened:
• Weekly hour-long meetings
• Literature review
• Recommended IPE didactic and experiential activities between pharmacy and public health
• Written report and presentation

Results:

Students:
• Identified only four publications describing public health & pharmacy IPE
• Made IPE recommendations:
  • Five didactic courses
  • Pandemic and HIV patient simulations
  • Research projects
  • Student-run clinics
  • Health fairs

Discussion
• Public health students learned about pharmacy curricula
• Pharmacy faculty learned about public health curricula
• Recommendations enacted:
  • Simulations scheduled for 2021-2022 academic year
  • Didactic courses offered as electives for pharmacy students

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