

COMSEP Pediatric Workforce Initiative

Pre-clinical Exposure

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Initiatives to date:

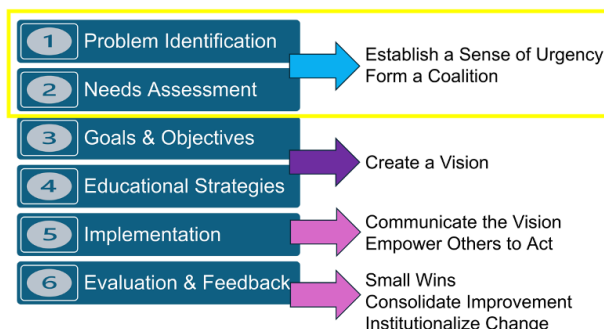
- Workshops at PAS 2024 and the APPD Pediatric Medical Education Conference 2024 about how to intentionally include pediatric content and pediatric educators in the preclinical curriculum/phase
- COMSEP 2025 workshop in collaboration with the Professional and Faculty Development Collaborative - brainstorming ways to re-energize Pediatric Interest Groups
- COMSEP Annual Survey questions in the 2024 member survey related to how pediatrics is represented and distributed within the preclinical phase, barriers to inclusion of pediatric content, and whether institutions have formal pediatric discipline director roles
- One-page roadmap (PDF) for educators regarding pediatrics in the pre-clerkship curriculum **(attached)**.

Goals/Objectives over the next year:

- White paper based on data obtained from a large-scale brainstorming session of diverse stakeholders held during the APPD Ped Med Ed Conference in September 2024
- Workshop and presence at the 2025 APPD Ped Med Ed Conference to continue to build on current cross-organizational networking opportunities and experiences
- Refining and disseminating a Pediatric Pre-clerkship Discipline Director Job Description
- Refining COMSEP website resources for pre-clerkship curriculum support
 - o Reorganizing the pre-clerkship curriculum objectives and learning activities into a more user-friendly format
 - o Tagging pre-clerkship curricular content and opportunities within the COMSEP Clerkship Curriculum using their curriculum mapping tool
- Soliciting and including more student voices to inform our future work
- Leveraging stakeholders from various other organizations, such as the APA, APPD, AAP for additional perspectives

If anyone is interested in joining this group within the taskforce, please let us know – we would love to include new and diverse voices in our projects!

Frameworks: Curricular Design & Leading Change



Kern (Curriculum): Kern DE, Thomas PA, Howard DM, Bass EB. *Curriculum Development for Medical Education: A Six-step Approach*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press; 1998.; Kotter (Leading Change): Kotter J. Leading Change: Why transformation efforts fail. Harvard Business Review, January 2007

Why Pediatrics?

Making the Argument: Problem Identification & Needs Assessment

All Medical Students:

- Enhance residency readiness (every residency other than IM has a pediatric component)
- Enhance understanding of ACEs, chronic illness, neurodevelopmental disorders
- Build skills in complex communication, observation as PE skill, and family-centered care
- Teach widely applicable content including health equity, SDoH, advocacy, sex and gender minority health, vaccines, climate and health, substance use

Pediatric Workforce: To enhance clerkship readiness and meaningful roles, increase exposure to pediatric mentors and experiences (research, advocacy, service, clinical), enhance understanding of the breadth of pediatric careers

Action Steps for Pediatric Educators

Participate in pre-clerkship teaching opportunities: enhance y knowledge of the curriculum to identify opportunities for pediatric content and educators and expose students to more pediatricians.

Don't limit yourself to pediatric-focused content: pediatricians have expertise in widely-applicable content (communication, trauma-informed care, health equity, advocacy, climate & health, and more!).

Join curricular committees: contribute to the conversations around curricular change and step up for opportunities.

Build relationships with curricular leaders: become the “go-to” person for pediatric content and reach out to them with ideas and innovations.

Support student-led efforts: partner with them to advocate for curricular change.

Network with colleagues outside of your institution: learn from successes, share resources, and collaborate.

Resources

[COMSEP](#) (build collaborations, share ideas, database of learning activities for the pre-clerkship phase)

[APA Medical Student Education SIG](#) (build collaborations, share ideas)

[Supporting Literature](#)