CPE: Research Literacy Curriculum

Pacific Region ACPE
2016 Annual Regional Meeting
Sept. 27, 2016

Rev. Pamela Lazor, ACPE Supervisor
Rev. Christina Shu, BCC
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About Cedars-Sinai

- **886** Licensed Beds
- **1,526** Research Projects
- **2,897** Volunteers
- **182,153** Volunteer Hours
- **120** Heart Transplants
- **481** Enrolled Resident and Fellow Positions
- **2,051** Physicians on Medical Staff
- **47,320** Admissions
- **88,422** Emergency Visits
Clinical Pastoral Education at Cedars-Sinai

- Highly supported and integrated
- Range of clinical experiences and resources
- 3 units offered: Fall/Winter & Winter/Spring extended, Summer full-time
- Level 1 and Level 2 students
- 6 – 10 CPE students per unit
- Many students do multiple units at Cedars-Sinai
- Many students with goal of becoming a board-certified chaplain
Grant application process

• Collaboration between CPE supervisor and staff chaplain interested in research literacy
• Management support
• Invitation to other Cedars-Sinai faculty to gauge interest: ethics, medical library, medical research, nursing research
• Reviewed pre-existing curricula
• Developed own curriculum to suit needs and context
• Invited faculty to teach particular sessions
• Developed a grant budget
• Submission
Rationale

• We believe that our practice as spiritual care professionals should be research-informed and evidence-based in order to provide those we serve with the best possible care. This view is increasingly held in the field of health care chaplaincy.

• We also believe that in the near future those seeking board-certification as chaplains will also be required to demonstrate research literacy.
Curriculum Objectives

• To introduce CPE students to basic concepts of research through reviewing research articles that are relevant to spiritual care practice.

• To develop CPE students’ capacity to integrate relevant research into their chaplaincy practice with the aim of deepening their ability to make and communicate informed spiritual assessments and spiritual care plans.

• To foster curiosity and critical reflection in CPE students about their own and others’ provision of spiritual and religious care that give rise to research inquiry and thinking.

• To develop CPE students’ capacities to use relevant research findings to appreciate the value of spiritual care and to advocate for the provision of spiritual care within institutional settings.

• To create familiarity with institutional resources related to research such as, but not limited to, the library and medical journal database, active researchers and research projects within the healthcare setting, and ethics and the IRB.
Curriculum Outcomes

Participants will:

• Integrate an informed and critical understanding of research into evidence-based spiritual care.

• Be able to read, understand and summarize the core components of a research paper related to spirituality or chaplaincy care.

• Be able to articulate the relevance and validity of a research study in the context of their own spiritual care practice.
Current Student Cohort

• 3 Level II current CPE students, 4 Cedars-Sinai CPE alumni, 2 CPE faculty, 4 full-time staff chaplains, 1 central office coordinator (non-chaplain)
• Required for Level II students
• Encouraged education for staff chaplains and CPE alumni
• All students intend to attend complete sessions or complete assignments for missed sessions
Modifications and Changes

• Opening course to CPE alumni
• Scheduling changes to accommodate Jewish holidays and Christmas concert
• Scheduling
• Created survey to document students pre- and post-self-assessment of confidence in research literacy
• Added webinar as part of assignments
• Consolidated classes
• Adapting administrative support and data collection as needs arise
• Planned conference for local CPE centers on recent research related to spirituality and healthcare with workshop component so small groups can discuss implementation and integration of research results
• Participants take a post survey
• Evaluate effectiveness of curriculum and plan for next year
Questions

I was just rubbing sticks together for fun — I didn’t realize I was doing basic research.

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