

Teaching Research in CPE Residency Programs

ACPE Conference Workshop February 9-10, 2012

Presenters: George Fitchett, ACPE Supervisor, Patricia Murphy, Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL; Paul Derrickson, ACPE Supervisor (retired), Hershey Medical Center, Hershey, PA; Alexander Tartaglia, ACPE Supervisor, Diane Dodd-McCue, Virginia Commonwealth University Health System, Richmond, VA.

MAKING THE CASE

- ✓ Research Literacy
- ✓ Research Collaboration
- ✓ Research Leadership

STANDARD 12: RESEARCH

The chaplain practices evidence-based care including ongoing evaluation of new practices and when appropriate, contributes to or conducts research. (<http://www.professionachaplains.org>)

RECENT STUDY OF ACPE CENTERS

Research question:

To what extent are ACPE accredited residency programs educating students for research literacy and competence in support of Standard 12?

Overview:

- ✓ Project reviewed by IRB at each institution
- ✓ Surveyed random sample of 21 free standing CPE residency centers and 5 system centers
- ✓ Sample represented 12% of programs in free standing centers and 22% of system centers
- ✓ Three programs (12%) reported that research was an intentional part of the curriculum. There were regular times dedicated to teaching research, didactic presentations about research, and/or resident participation in journal clubs or other research activities.
- ✓ Seven programs (27%) reported that research was not an intentional part of the curriculum, but some periodic opportunities for reading of research or lectures were included in the curriculum.
- ✓ There was variation among supervisors regarding meaning of incorporation of research in the CPE curriculum. There were also multiple descriptions of current research activities, formal and informal.

Results by the numbers: Does your CPE program incorporate research education?

	YES	SOME	NO
CPE Centers	3(14%)	5 (24%)	13 (62%)
CPE Systems	0 (0%)	2 (40%)	3 (60%)
All Programs - Total	3 (12%)	7(27%)	16 (62%)

All results were independently coded by 3 members of the research team; 88% initial agreement. Differences were resolved among discussion of entire team.

This study appears in an upcoming 2012 issue of [The Journal of Pastoral Care and Counseling](#).

CPE RESEARCH EDUCATION APPROACHES: THREE EXPERIENCES

- ✓ **RESEARCH LITERACY** - Rush University
- ✓ **RESEARCH INVOLVEMENT**- Hershey Medical
- ✓ **RESEARCH LEADERSHIP** – Virginia Commonwealth University

RESEARCH LITERACY

CPE Resident Didactic: Introduction to Research For Chaplains

- ✓ Objective is to develop informed and critical understanding of research to apply to evidence-based practice; to read and understand simple research paper; to describe implications of a study to pastoral ministry; to find research through PubMed and ACPE Research Network
- ✓ Total of eight sessions
- ✓ Positive evaluations from students- "I see a great deal of benefit of reading research as a group. I would like to continue this as a part of my professional development."
- ✓ Behaviors reflect impact- attendance and presentation of articles at bimonthly journal club, increased sharing of relevant articles

RESEARCH INVOLVEMENT

Teaching Research in CPE Residency: The Spiritual Pathways Project

- ✓ Objective is to offer models of what chaplains in future need to do by providing students an overview of research; increasing familiarity with research as well as developing literature search, critique, and application to pastoral work; incorporate time management skills; increase interactions with staff; end result is improved patient care
- ✓ Sessions from Nov- July
- ✓ Positive evaluation reflected by improved "project products" overtime
- ✓ Final projects shared with students, peers, supervisors, and staff chaplains toward end of residency

RESEARCH LEADERSHIP

CPE Resident and MS Student Research Courses

- ✓ Three courses with three interrelated objectives, with emphasis on application to chaplaincy practice; objectives are to develop an understanding of research basics; to apply evidence-based inquiry (data collection) to topics of relevance to chaplains; to develop and present chaplaincy research to relevant audiences
- ✓ Sessions from Oct-June
- ✓ Positive evaluation reflected by variety and quality of projects, which have resulted in presentations to variety of audiences and generation of usable products
- ✓ Reinforces chaplains participation in collaborative multidisciplinary research projects in and out of health services environment

CONTACT INFORMATION

George Fitchett George_Fitchett@rush.edu

Alexander Tartaglia aftartag@vcu.edu

Patricia Murphy Patricia_Murphy@rush.edu

Diane Dodd-McCue ddoddmccue@vcu.edu

Paul Derrickson pderrickson@comcast.net

Additional information relating to this presentation is available at the ACPE Research Network website <http://www.acperesearch.net>