

EXAMPLE PROJECTS

FUNDAMENTALS OF EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

A charge nurse on a general med floor has noticed that new nurses are not charting information correctly in patient records. She implements a training program where new nurses are matched with a senior nurse who one-on-one teaches charting in the hospital's EMR. After a week, new nurses chart independently and the senior nurse checks for improvement and accuracy.

As part of new employee onboarding, employees on patient care floors are required to take a training course on preventing patient falls. As part of their orientation, these employees are paired with a mentor who shadows them during their first month of employment. A checklist of best practices is used by the mentor to see what percentage of practices are used by the new employees.

A hospitalist works daily with an interprofessional team, and has noticed that different team members seem to approach providing patients with discharge instructions in different ways, sometimes leading to patient confusion about how their medications should be taken. She decides to do a focus group with the team to understand their priorities when giving discharge planning and then to develop a guide that includes all of the input she received that can be used by all team members. Prior to the focus group she plans to survey 15 patients on the day of discharge to see how well they understand their medication instructions, and after implementing the new guide she will survey 15 patients to see if their understanding has improved.

A phlebotomist who trains new hires is dismayed at how many times they are unable to obtain the necessary blood samples when they first start, and how long it takes them to get to what she considers to be a competent level. She decides to track the percentage of samples that five new hires are able to obtain over their first two months as baseline data. She then implements a system where a senior phlebotomist accompanies a new hire for two hours a day twice a week and gives immediate feedback on every blood draw. She collects data on the percentage of samples they successfully obtain over their first two months and compares the rate of improvement with those who didn't get the feedback.

A Physician Assistant teaches physiology to first year students. The curriculum is all lecture based. He decides to try to use a more interactive approach where students prep with the knowledge base for the day in advance and class time is used to discuss cases where that knowledge needs to be applied. He plans to evaluate the intervention by surveying the students about their opinions of the new approach and by looking at how well they perform on the final exam compared to past years.

A pharmacist that teaches pharmacy students is concerned that they do not have good skills at counselling patients on how to store and correctly take their medications when they leave the

hospital. She decides to observe each of them counselling three patients then spend a few hours teaching them about it and doing role plays, then observing them each with three more patients to see if they do better.