

Pipelines and Pathways: Strategies to Improve Recruitment Efforts Among Rural and Underrepresented Students in Medicine

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By the end of the presentation, participants will be:

- Aware of the importance of developing and sustaining pipelines and pathways to medical school and rural practice through innovation.
- Inspired to leverage professional expertise and political capital to support outreach initiatives.
- Motivated to develop innovative community-engagement initiatives to illuminate the importance of rural medical education.



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Presentation Outline

- AMA Accelerating Change in Medical Education Initiative
- Innovative Trends in Medical Education
- Spotlight on Rural Medical Education Programs
- COVID-19 and Medical Education Curricula
- Regional Collaborations in East Texas
- Rural Medical Student Outreach in East Texas



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Accelerating Change in Medical Education Initiative

In 2016, the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) launched the Pursuing Excellence in Clinical Learning Environments Initiative as part of its larger Clinical Learning Environment Review (CLER) initiative, which provides ACGME-accredited institutions with periodic feedback. The program aims “to promote transformative improvement in the clinical learning environments of accredited institutions” through three major components:

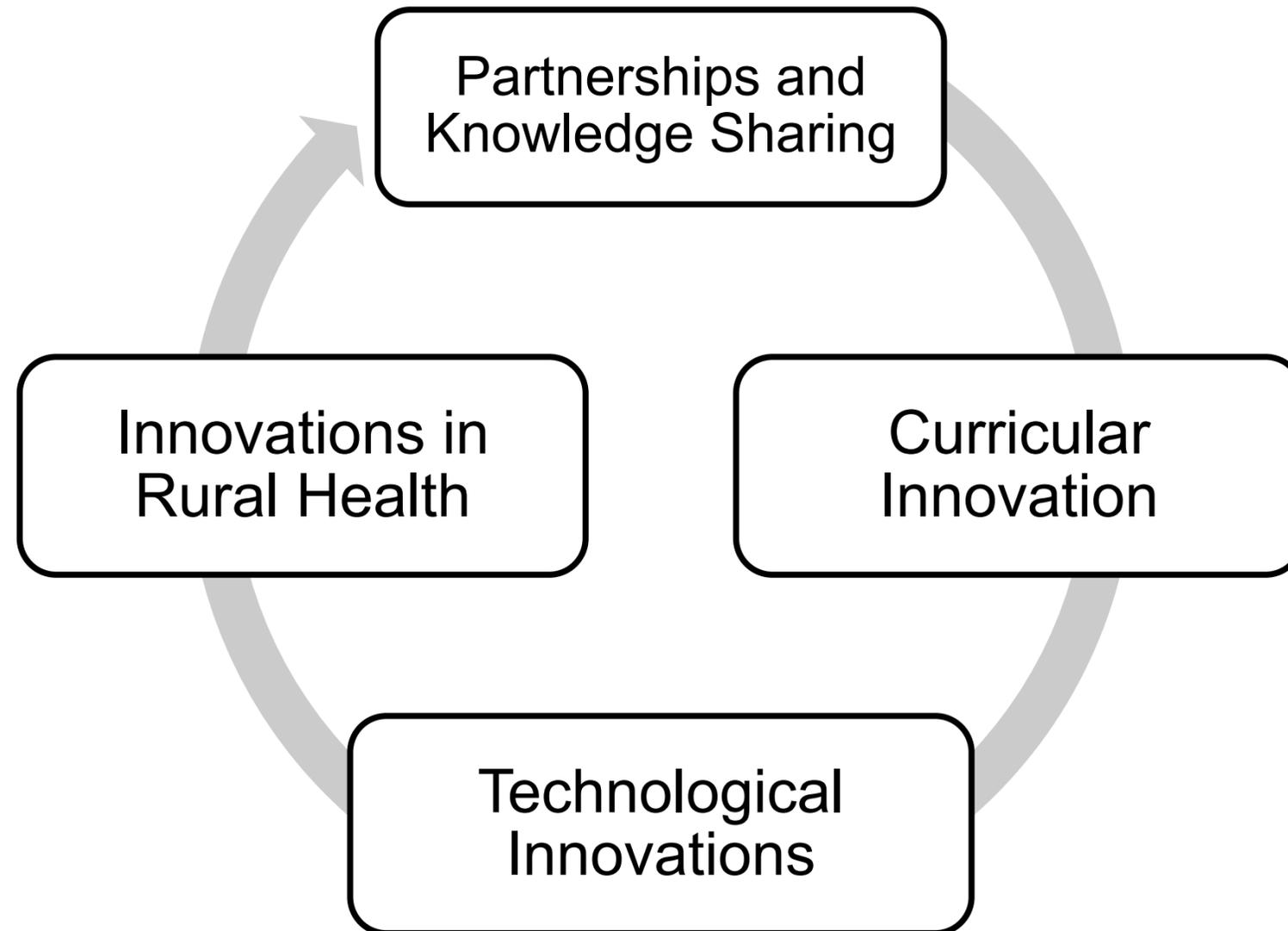
- **Pathway Innovations** Executives enhancing the clinical learning vision and culture in their own organizations.
- **Pathway Leaders** Executives who want to optimize the learning environment in a given focus area.
- **Pathway Learners** Adoption of the efforts developed by Pathway Innovators and Leaders.



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Innovative Trends in Medical Education



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Spotlight on Rural Medical Education Programs



Institution and Medical School	Curricular Innovation	Curricular Promotion	Notable Features
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine Cleveland, OH	In 2006, the School of Medicine launched the Western Reserve2 Curriculum (WR2) to develop a learner-centered and self-directed curriculum framework and implement dynamic small group learning teams.	“The Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine curriculum has long been recognized and praised for its innovative approach.”	Student-centered learning teams - Case Inquiry Program Large group interactive sessions such as Team-Based Learning Anatomy sessions that offer an opportunity for dissection and learning using holograms Case Western is also expanding on the patient-navigator model.
Indiana University School of Medicine Indianapolis, IN	IU School of Medicine recently updated the MD curriculum to reflect and support changes in the care delivery model. IU School of Medicine’s innovation initiative in AMA ’s consortium creates a virtual health care system (vHS).	“Students pursuing a Doctor of Medicine degree at IU School of Medicine progress through a statewide medical education curriculum that includes training in the basic sciences as well as clinical training.”	Three-phased curricular structure Clinical experiences are integrated throughout the curriculum Four-year advising and mentoring support All medical students are part of a learning community, a small group that fosters interaction, learning, and professional development. Rural Medical Education Program (RMEP) at the Terre Haute campus
The University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School Austin, TX	Leading EDGE Curriculum (Essentials, Delivery, Growth, and Exploration)	“Dell Med’s unique curriculum is designed to focus students on the distinct challenges of 21st-century health and medicine.”	Students teach each other through case studies. Students start their clerkships during their second year, (a year earlier than most schools). Each of the six rotations occurs in hospitals and clinics across Austin. Four-year longitudinal courses: Developing Outstanding Clinical Skills, Interprofessional Education, and Leadership.
University of Texas Rio Grande Valley School of Medicine Edinburg, TX	According to AMA , “This new medical school is in one of the most medically underserved areas of the United States, and this transformative communication curriculum provides medical students with knowledge and skills to work effectively at health centers and in community-based settings along the United States-Mexican border.”	“Our medical school provides students with access to high-quality, innovative medical education programs that are designed to train the next generation of physician leaders in medical education, scientific research, and patient care.”	The four-year curriculum is divided into two pre-clerkship years comprised of sequential and longitudinal learning modules and two clerkship years comprised of clerkships, selective clerkships and sub-internships, and electives. Curriculum Integration: Interprofessional Education, Early Clinical Exposure, and Underserved Medicine.



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COVID-19 and Medical Education Curricula

A renewed focus on public health has been a result of the COVID-19 pandemic across medical education programs. Specifically, some specific examples include:

- Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine has implemented a COVID-19 public health rotation. Third-year students did a four-week rotation at local health departments to work either remotely or on-site, helping with patient navigation, patient monitoring, and contact tracing.
- The University of California San Francisco School of Medicine changed its core curriculum as part of its plan to address the pandemic. The core curriculum incorporates new content on the impact of racism on human health, aiming to prepare a workforce capable of and committed to eliminating health and healthcare disparities.
- Vanderbilt University School of Medicine (VUSM) incorporated the Pandemic Medicine Integrated Science Course to give student a more in-depth understanding of pandemics.



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Regional Outreach Collaborations in East Texas



East Texas Pipelines and Pathways Programs

- Pre-Medical Enrichment Program
- Pre-Health Academies
- Summer Health Internship Project
- High School Health Science Practicums
- High School Pre-Health Conference
- Medical Scholars Academy



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Rural Medical Student Outreach in East Texas



Programmatic Objectives

- Opportunities for career exploration
- Partnerships with residency programs
- Development of health education initiatives
- Seamless integration with public health
- Advocacy to improve diversity and inclusion
- Strategic long-range planning with community leadership groups and decision makers.



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