Towards a Universal Medical Education Global Health Curriculum: Update on the Bellagio Global Health Education Initiative

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What is BGHEI?

**VISION**

Enhance the quality and purpose of global health education in medical schools worldwide

**MISSION**

BGHEI represents a diverse group of medical educators who work in small groups to study issues in global health education, disseminate this information widely in order to influence best practices, and monitor implementation and assessment of global health curricula

**VALUES**

- Diversity – Representation from high-, middle-, and low-income countries, as well as age, gender, ethnicity, and perspectives of learners
- Expertise – In global health education theory as well as practice
- Innovation – Use of technology in curriculum design and implementation
- Collaboration – Within small groups, with the larger BGHEI community, and with other groups working on similar issues

Current State of Global Health Education Group

**Goals**

- To understand the status of global health education in medical curricula globally
- To determine the components of global health curricula, how and where they are taught
- To understand the nature of pre-departure preparation

**Process**

- An online survey was piloted to institutions represented in the BGHEI. Questions were refined, based on feedback obtained. The questionnaire was disseminated to a broader global sample and results compiled

**Outcomes to Date**

- Of 12 institutions, located in 6 regions surveyed, 9 have either a formal global health curriculum that is either integrated into the core medical curriculum or separate from it

Transformational Learning Group

**Goals**

- To understand the potential of global health education to facilitate learning experiences that could be regarded as “transformative,” as discussed by Frenk et al 2010
- To explore the ways in which an assessment can be made as to the nature and extent of such transformational learning – approaches, assessment tools, etc. – and the role of reflection in such assessment

**Process**

- Stepwise approach, beginning with scoping review of transformational learning as it is currently represented in the health professions literature

**Outcomes to Date**

- Developed a study protocol, described the search area, identified inclusion/exclusion criteria, conducted search. Review of articles in progress

Curriculum Development Group

**Goals**

- Justify why global health should be core to medical education in high-, middle-, and low-income countries
- Elaborate on the “away” site, including its unique characteristics and how to optimize the away experience
- Determine how to tie global health education to patient care needs and outcomes

**Process**

- Shared online document composition using the nominal group technique and modified Delphi process, facilitated by Skype meetings

**Outcomes to Date**

- Developing “best practices” for curriculum design at the “away” site
- Exploring the value of “in-country” “away” experiences

Other Efforts / Future Directions

**Forthcoming Publications**

- BGHEI rationale and key principles manuscript, Medical Teacher, in press
- Study of medical student experiences and expectations, under review

**Expansion of Group Membership**


Visit our Website: [http://bellagioglobalhealth.education](http://bellagioglobalhealth.education)

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