Lapses in Professionalism: Remediating the Hidden Curriculum

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Objectives

• Define lapses in professionalism

• Identify barriers that may exist regarding the remediation of professionalism lapses among PA students

• Formulate a remedial plan of action for a given scenario

• Outline existing strategies for the remediation of lapses in professionalism
Professionalism in PA Education

• Why is it important?
  – Poor patient outcomes
  – Medical errors
  – Risk of future disciplinary action
  – Disruption of medical care
Lapses in Professionalism

• Poor interpersonal skills

• Unethical behaviors

• Accountability and Responsibility

• Impairment
Intervening

• Faculty obstacles to intervening
  – Discomfort
  – Lack of training and/or expertise
  – Effect on student’s future career

• Program obstacles to intervening
  – Resources for extensive intervention
  – Support for interventions
  – Fear of litigation
ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION
EXISTING STRATEGIES
Interventions

- Brief, informal discussion
- Awareness or Feedback discussion
- Authority involvement
Strategies

• Coaching session with advisor

• Standardized Patient scenarios

• Self-assessment exercises

• Self-reflection assignments
Take Home Points

• Lapses can be part of normal professional development

• Professionalism = Academics

• PA training programs would benefit from standardized, validated processes
References


Thank You!

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