



Serving a Vulnerable Population: Student Outcomes from a Free Foot and Ankle Clinic

Presenter

Ashleigh Medda, DPM, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation

Collaborating Authors

Zachary German, MS4 and Annie Madeline Thurman, MS3

Problem Statement

A student-run foot and ankle clinic was created in partnership with the WFSOM DEAC Clinic and a community organization, City with Dwellings, to produce an educational outlet that specifically aids graduate level students in becoming comfortable with foot and ankle exams and striving for health care equality in vulnerable populations, both which can commonly be missing from current curriculum.





Study Design

- Student comfort levels in preforming a proper foot and ankle exam as well as working with a vulnerable population will be assessed using a pre and post surveying method detailing students' perceived comfort levels on a scale of 0-10.
- Change in level of comfort will be evaluated by the absolute difference before and after each clinic for each student and results will be stratified to explore whether there is a difference between lower-level and upper-level students using a paired-T test.





Evaluation Plan & Conclusion

- We expect that after continuous participation in the clinic, students will feel more comfortable with preforming a foot and ankle exam as well as caring and advocating for a vulnerable population.
- We hope that students take these skills with them throughout their careers in order to better understand and care for their communities.





Questions for Discussion

 Would students be more likely to fill out the pre and post tests with a QR code or paper survey?





References

 Buchanan D, Rohr L, Kehoe L, Glick SB, Jain S. Changing attitudes toward homeless people. J Gen Intern Med. 2004 May;19(5 Pt 2):566-8. doi: 10.1111/j.1525-1497.2004.30111.x. PMID: 15109326; PMCID: PMC1492329.



