



Quality Improvement and Patient Safety			
Contact Information			
Supervisors	Dr. Nadine Korah	E-mail	nadine.korah@mcgill.ca
Site			
MUHC: Montreal Children’s Hospital			
Eligibility Requirements			
<p>The quality improvement and patient safety elective is available to McGill medical students who are currently in their core or senior clerkship years. This elective does not require prior experience in quality improvement; however, formal teaching in basic principles earlier in medical school is an asset.</p> <p>Places are limited depending on supervisor availability, potential projects, and personal elective objectives.</p> <p>Prerequisite/ Co-requisite: None.</p>			
Context			
<p>In the 2015 draft of the CanMEDS Physician Competency Framework, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada introduced quality improvement (QI) and patient safety (PS) as key competencies to the core role of Medical Expert. Since then, it has been argued to be among the highest priorities for the Canadian health care system. Numerous medical schools across Canada and the United States have embraced QI/PS initiatives and have integrated strategies to provide both medical students and residents with training in these domains.</p> <p>Year after year, McGill Medical School graduates commence their respective residency programs striving to provide congruent and up-to-date medical care. The establishment of a QI/PS elective at McGill University will help educate students on competencies and practices that will be instrumental to their future careers as physicians.</p>			



Course Overview

The Quality Improvement and Patient Safety elective is a four-week elective aimed at helping medical students understand the fundamental concepts of QI/PS. This elective includes formal learning of key concepts, exposure to current MUHC-based QI/PS activities, and completion of a supervised, active independent project. Project will be overseen by the MCH Office for Quality Improvement.

For additional information, to find out availability, and to apply to the program, please contact the QI/PS Electives Program Supervisor: Dr. Nadine Korah, Supervisor, QI/PS Elective Program, MCH Office for Quality and Safety

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this elective, students will be able to:

1. Define the six domains of quality improvement and principles of continuous quality improvement.
2. Analyze and describe a quality improvement issue within the McGill University Health Centre.
3. Employ strategies to measure quality improvement and identify the challenges and limitations of such strategies.
4. Develop an Aim statement, a SMART objective, and an effective measurement strategy in order to develop a QI project to tackle an adverse event at the MUHC.
5. Define and understand the importance of, and employ the use of multidisciplinary teams in improving quality of care.

Further specific learning objectives may be agreed upon with the supervisor depending on the student's interests and proposed project.

Instructional Methods

This is a project-based elective that involves student developing a QI project with direct coaching by supervisor. Students will be encourage to disseminate their work in a scholarly fashion. There is also possibility to complete formal training in LEAN quality improvement theory (white or yellow belt).



Undergraduate Medical Education Elective

Course Content

This elective will be divided into three components:

1. Formal learning of key concepts, concentrating on forming a basic understanding of quality improvement and patient safety.
2. Attendance in four or more MUHC meetings in order to appreciate the importance of teamwork and structured discussions in implementing change.
3. Active independent project in a related topic of interest within the realm of QI/PS. This project will be overseen by a champion and leader in QI/PS initiatives at the MUHC who will act as a research supervisor and mentor. Students are expected to present their findings in a presentation at the conclusion of this elective.

In addition to the above learning objectives, the course content will be project-specific.

Assessment

Pre-clerkship elective students are assessed by the Project Supervisor throughout the course, with an emphasis on gauging progress and achieving the site-specific learning outcomes and overall elective learning objectives using a Student Assessment Form, which follows the MDCM program objectives. Students will be provided formative narrative feedback on their project and a final grade of Pass or Fail for this elective.

Recommended Reading/Preparation

Prior to enrolling in this elective, students are encouraged to read the following book:
Influencer: The New Science of Leading Change: 2nd Ed. New York: McGraw-Hill Education, 2013. Print.

Additional References:

1. [CMPA Good practice guide for Patient Safety and Quality Improvement](#)
2. [CPSI Improvement Framework](#)
3. Institute for health care improvement. Online learning tools. www.IHI.org



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