

Elective Description

Campus: Southeast (Fargo)

Elective/Experience Title: Quality Improvement*

Location of Elective: Sanford Medical Center – Fargo, ND

Department: Internal Medicine

Course Number: IMED 9501-01

Preceptor(s): Mallory Koshiol, MPH, CPH Kate Syverson, MSW, LICSW, CPHQ Ellen Parker, MBA, MPH

Period(s) Offered: as approved by preceptor

Number of students per period: 2 students

Course prerequisites:

Revised Curriculum Phase(s): 2 & 3

Purpose: A practical knowledge of quality improvement methodology is important for all physicians. An elective in Quality Improvement and Patient Safety (QIPS) will provide the opportunity for medical students to gain formal training and practical experience in quality improvement (QI) methodology.

Objectives:** Following successful completion of this elective, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate application of performance improvement tools, value-based health care and high reliability principles as they relate to day to day clinical care.
2. Identify the key elements of an effective aim statement.
3. Identify three kinds of measures: process, outcome, and balancing.
4. Using IHI models for improvement, generate a project charter to define the project which will be completed within the healthcare facility.
5. Execute a patient safety / quality improvement project which results in a poster presentation submission.

**these objectives meet EPA 13.

Instructional Activities: During this elective, the student will be involved in/experience:

1. Within the first two weeks of the course, complete the assigned IHI online modules.
2. Meet at a minimum weekly with the course director to discuss progress on the IHI modules and project design.
3. Experiential learning through participation in QI projects. Project facilitation will be provided by advisers from the Sanford Office of Quality and Safety.
4. Submit a poster to the QI Symposium at Sanford Medical Center, Fargo in October. (The student is welcome to but need not be present at the symposium, as the faculty facilitator will be available for presentation).
5. Optional presentation of the project to a meeting of interested faculty, residents, and students, to be arranged by the Sanford Office of Quality and Safety

Criteria for Grading: During and following this elective, the preceptor will:

1. Evaluate by discussion the student's ability to apply performance improvement tools, value-based health care and high reliability principles as they relate to day to day clinical care. (objective #1)
2. Evaluate by review of the student's project proposal the student's ability to identify the key elements of an effective aim statement, generate a quality improvement project proposal, and three kinds of measures: process, outcome and balancing (objective #2, 3, 4)
3. Evaluate by review of online completion certificates the student's completion of the assigned IHI online modules (objective #4).
4. Evaluate by direct observation the student's poster presentation submission in regard to the outcomes, recommendations, and lessons learned from the project. (objective #5).
5. The grade for the elective will be pass/fail based on the student's final poster submission. The final poster will be graded according to established guidelines of acceptance to Sanford's QI Symposium.

*Elective adopted from Quality Improvement and Patient Safety curriculum at UT Southwestern Medical School.
(<https://www.utsouthwestern.edu/education/medical-school/curriculum/clerkship/scholarly-activity/quality/>)