

Project of the Operation Team program of the Robert Bosch Stiftung

HEALTHY&HUMAN: Students and Trainees in the Health Care Professions and Medicine in Interprofessional Skills Training

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WHO?

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WHERE?

Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf (UKE)

and

UKE Academy for Training and Career

WHEN?

Project duration: October 1, 2016, to September 30, 2018

WHAT?

Interprofessional learning as a foundation for quality training requires suitable learning environments. This is why we are planning the establishment of an interprofessional learning environment where medical students and those studying the health care professions at the Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf can take part in interprofessionally designed courses. The integration of course units that are planned and carried out in an interdisciplinary manner is aimed at making a groundbreaking contribution to the professionalization of the culture of communication in clinics, thereby improving future collaboration as well as the mutual appreciation of participating professions. Additionally, an expansion of knowledge transfer with respect to content will occur through reciprocal communication of profession-specific information. In addition to the development and execution of the actual courses, the project will also be accompanied by scientific research.

Goals

At the teacher level, the focus is on awareness of existing, as well as potentially conflict-ridden, communication structures in the interdisciplinary station team and then developing interprofessional problem-solving strategies as learning goals based on this awareness.

At the institutional level – in addition to increasing the quality and efficiency of clinical care – the curricular development of degree programs and training for medical students and trainees in the health care professions is of particular importance to us.

The diversification of the health care professions and the environments in which they are practiced makes it necessary to also diversify the training that these professionals receive. For this reason, we act on the assumption that interprofessional training is necessary and useful not only between doctors and nurses, for example. These courses need also to reach and integrate all employees in the health care system. This is why we are planning the establishment of an interprofessional learning environment where all trainees and those studying the health care professions at the Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf can take part in interprofessionally designed courses. In terms of content, these course units will be designed by an interprofessional team and anchored in the curriculum.

These basic concepts form the core of the iMED integrated course model in Hamburg. In this case, integration goes beyond just the name. The successful integration – optimized in each year of the degree program – of the core subjects and the professional clinical disciplines since the beginning of iMED in 2012 serves as proof that this is the only path to a modern medical degree that also suits social requirements.

The core curriculum of iMED places students in a learning environment where modern medicine and the working environment of doctors are characterized by diverse interprofessional interactions with partners in patient care. Without communication skills, knowledge of the skills of the interaction partners, and cooperative models of collaboration, it is not possible to successfully provide patient care in a modern health care system.

These guiding principles should to be aligned and integrated with the curricula of the UKE training courses and degree programs (e.g. nursing, surgical assistance, physiotherapy) in order to implement combined approaches for modern, joint development of the health professions.