

WCMEW

Wisconsin Council on Medical Education and Workforce

April 2021 Newsletter

Forum Registration Now Open

Registration is now open for the *2021 Clinical Training Forum: Challenges and Best Practices*. The event will be held virtually on Zoom on June 24 from 9-11:30 am, and registration is free. [Click here](#) to register.

Presentations are also encouraged. Topics on a range of issues are welcome, including:

“Prioritizing and selecting programs and students for clinical placement”

- How does your organization prioritize and select programs and students for clinical placement?
- How does your organization recruit, onboard and retain preceptors?

“Best practices for schools in seeking and working with clinical sites... What schools and programs look for in placing students”

- How does your school/program identify and work with clinical sites?
- What does your school/program look for in placing students?

Interested? [Submit](#) a one-page abstract including your name and contact information. The abstract should include:

- An outline of the issues
- Challenges and successes
- Lessons learned
- How it could be applied in other contexts
- Policy implications or recommendations

PANEL PRESENTATIONS WELCOME!

The presentations will be followed by a full-group discussion of learnings and takeaways.

If you have questions or wish to submit an abstract, contact George Quinn by May 9 at gquinn@wcmew.org or 608-333-4335.

Quarterly Council Meeting

The WCMEW Council held its quarterly meeting on April 7. Agenda items included:

1. George Quinn providing an update on the workforce project and shared some preliminary findings, including:
 - Projections of population and demographic changes over the next 15 years, with an overall 8% increase in population, but significant variances from that average. The over-65 population utilizes healthcare at a rate 3 to 4 times greater than the remaining population, so the projected significant increase of over 80% in their population would have a disproportionate impact on demand. Combined with current utilization patterns for the above demographics – and projecting into the year 2035 – increases in demand include:
 - Ambulatory care – 14%
 - Home health – 30%
 - Hospital – 19%
 - Long-term care – 102%
 - There is great variation in where professions practice, meaning that there will be differences in the projected demand for their services. LPNs, for example, have a high percentage of their discipline practicing in long-term care, where the greatest increase in demand is forecasted. Projections for each profession include:
 - RNs – 24%
 - LPNs – 52%
 - Physician Assistants – 17%
 - Pharmacists – 18%
 - APRNs – 12%

Next steps in the project include projecting supply across the professions, analyzing potential changes in care, and arriving at findings and recommendations.

2. A report from the Clinical Sites Forum Planning work group that has finalized plans for the upcoming Forum, to be held virtually on June 24. More details are provided above.
3. A round robin discussion with the following highlights:
 - WHA – The Hospital Association is working on the state budget and preparing for Advocacy Day. The GME and APC grant programs remained the same in the budget, except that expansion grants now allow for any specialty. As a result, the UW OB/GYN program has been expanded. WHA's annual workforce report will be published shortly. A key element will be what the COVID-19 experience has taught us.
 - RWHC – The Co-op is exploring the potential development of a game app for smartphones and tablets that would have users explore their affinity for healthcare careers.

- Marshfield Health System – MHS is applying for a GME expansion grant. It is looking at more use of simulation to enhance clinical learning. Finally, MHS has created a high school outreach coordinator position to begin connecting with local schools.
- WRPRAP and WCRGME – This year, WRPRAP is receiving more applications than it has funding availability; more applications are including requests for equipment. WRPRAP is also looking for more applications with an interprofessional component. WCRGME is planning for an upcoming Program Directors Conference.
- WMS – The Society has formed a COVID-19 Task Force, focusing on lessons learned. WMS has also created a physician wellness program for members to manage their own wellness. The Society has also formed a Diversity Task Force focusing on equity, diversity, and inclusion.
- WAFP – This year's GME match program for family physicians resulted in a 97% match rate for Wisconsin. Family medicine match rates in Wisconsin have greatly improved in the last 20 years. The Academy is again funding Wisconsin student attendance at the AAFP annual conference; historically, 87% of state attendees stay and practice in Wisconsin.
- WAPA – A new state law removes the requirement that physician assistants must be supervised by a physician, potentially expanding the access to PAs. WAPA also reported that designated trauma centers are changing some standards, thereby increasing training requirements. There has been an uptick in COVID-19 cases in emergency rooms, likely related to the relaxing of constraints on public gatherings.
- AHEC – Wisconsin AHEC is planning its annual community health internship program for June; there are 112 students enrolled. Also, AHEC has its second cohort underway of AHEC Scholars, a longitudinal, interdisciplinary program.
- WNA – The Nurses Association held a meeting with Deans from nursing schools and discussed impacts of COVID-19, including nurse wellness, depression, and fatigue. WNA has created a PSA video that encourages people to seek care from their GPs. And, as part of its team-based care grant, WNA has prepared a report and a video of its findings.
- PSW – The Pharmacy Society reported that, nationally, only about 50% of Pharmacy graduates were able to match with a residency program; Wisconsin data is not yet available. PSW is advocating for legislation that would recognize Pharmacists as providers in the Medicaid program, and other legislation that would make permanent some regulations that were modified during the pandemic.
- NP Forum – The WNA will be holding its annual APRN pharmacology and therapeutics meeting on April 15 and 16 in a virtual format.

[Click here](#) for a PowerPoint of the meeting.

Wisconsin Pharmacy Workforce 2020 Report

A research team from the Medical College of Wisconsin School of Pharmacy, the University of Wisconsin Madison School of Pharmacy, and Children's Hospital of Wisconsin has published a report on Wisconsin's Pharmacy workforce – *the first to focus on Wisconsin*. It includes data on pharmacists and pharmacy technicians, with detailed information on:

- Distribution, age, gender, and race
- Practice settings
- Degrees, residency training, and student debt
- Pharmacy workforce supply and demand

The report has been posted on the WCMEW website and is [available here](#).

Alphabet Soup

Following are highlights from the April call:



Larry Pheifer - WAFP

- In the 2021 National Resident Matching Program, 4,493 medical students and graduates matched to family medicine residency programs. Family medicine offered 4,844 positions, 159 more than in 2020, and 13.8% of positions offered in all specialties.
- In Wisconsin, 103 of 106 open Family Medicine GME positions were filled, a 97% match rate.

Julie Richards – WiNC

- The WiNC GME Consortium programs had a successful Match with all three (Aspirus Wausau, Eau Claire Prevea/HSHS, and Green Bay Prevea/HSHS/MCW) family medicine programs filling. The Green Bay Program, the newest family medicine residency in the state, successfully filled their inaugural class of four residents.
- WiNC is actively working with their programs to identify faculty development needs and opportunities and is looking to deploy a Workforce Development Survey to assess primary care workforce projections for the 37 counties WiNC serves.
- Lastly, WiNC is planning to submit an application for a DHS grant later this month to help continue its mission of supporting and expanding GME in the region.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact George Quinn at gquinn@wcmew.org, or use the information below.

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WORKFORCE IN THE NEWS

[Now is the time to diversify the nation's medical workforce. Here's how.](#) – Brookings Institution

2020 has proven to be a pivotal time in medical education with a pandemic, social unrest, and an increased call to diversify the medical workforce. What can we learn? How can medical programs continue to increase equal representation in medicine?