

## **Medical students' experiences as patients in a chiropractic student clinic and its impact on future interprofessional collaborations**

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### **ABSTRACT**

**Background:** Interprofessional Education (IPE) improves patient's quality of care and leads to patient-centered care and future Interprofessional Collaborations (IPC)<sup>1,3,4,5</sup>. A study in IPE showed that DC's have more participation in MD-CEs and that MD's have little or no participation in DC-CEs<sup>2</sup>.

Our Doctor of Chiropractic program's student clinic interns were encouraged to have students from all other programs at the institution as their patients to foster interprofessional relationships. After receiving care, all patients received a survey that evaluated their experience in the clinic.

**Objective:** The purpose of this cross-sectional study is to evaluate the experiences of medical students (MS) as patients of a chiropractic student clinic (the Clinic) and to evaluate the impact this experience has towards a future interprofessional collaborations.

**Methods:** After receiving chiropractic care at the Clinic, all patients are asked to answer a voluntary electronic patient survey. 16 MS participated as patients in the Clinic and completed a survey covering satisfaction, perception and quality of chiropractic care, and expectations about future interprofessional collaborations.

**Results:** Out of 16 medical students, 14 completed the survey. Results show that 100% classified their general experience at the clinic and quality of the intern's treatment as excellent and found both interns and doctors as amicable, respectful, and professional. 92.3% expressed that intern demonstrated exhaustive capacities during the examination, giving home instructions, and that both, doctor, and intern worked with their chief complaint and other complaints. In relation to quality of care, 100% stated that chiropractic interns have a vast knowledge in physical examination skills, medical history intake skills, interns provided adequate explanations about tests and treatments and made them important participants of their own treatment. After receiving chiropractic care, 85.7% stated they know more about chiropractic care, and 100% stated they can see themselves doing collaborative treatment with chiropractors and would recommend other MS to get treated at the student clinic.

**Conclusion:** Medical students had an overall positive experience after receiving chiropractic care and are more aware of chiropractic care. They have a positive attitude towards referring chiropractic care to other peers and to engage in interprofessional collaborative work in the future.

**Research Area:** Clinical Sciences

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