

Tracking Patient Case Demographics

CurrMIT has been essential in supporting patient case development and tracking at the **Southern Illinois University School of Medicine (SIU)**. The data being managed in CurrMIT are vital to ensuring the right mix of patient characteristics and topics in SIU's problem-based learning curriculum.

The Challenge

SIU's conversion to a problem-based learning curriculum required some mechanism to record, evaluate, and (where necessary) update over 100 patient cases for use in the new curriculum. The medical school needed to ensure that the desired range and mix of patient demographics were represented. At the same time, the medical school sought to extend vertical integration of topics covered throughout the curriculum. These efforts required a means of collecting and correlating information about patients as well as topics referenced in cases.

The CurrMIT Solution

CurrMIT permits thorough analysis of case details. SIU used CurrMIT to record age, gender, and other demographic characteristics of the patient population referenced in their cases. Additionally, information on presenting situations, diagnoses, and faculty- and student-generated learning issues surrounding each case was logged. The Office of Education and Curriculum used customizable features of CurrMIT to organize and structure data in meaningful categories. Further, using tables built into CurrMIT, SIU was able to link relevant USMLE Content Headings and LCME "hot topics" to the cases. CurrMIT reports now allow the Office of Education and Curriculum to monitor and evaluate the cases being used in great detail. The school of medicine can easily determine whether the desired range of topics and patient demographics is being covered. Further, if SIU decides that new topics, learning issues, demographics, or other information must be included in the curriculum, it can quickly determine where the new information can be most usefully embedded.

The Benefits

SIU uses CurrMIT for the detailed recording, monitoring, evaluation, and updating of varied patient cases for use in the curriculum. CurrMIT continues to support educators' efforts to improve case development and management, support content integration, and provide the data necessary for thorough and effective curriculum evaluation.

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