

Survey Results

Re-entry/refresher courses at medical schools

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A re-entry/refresher course, also called a re-immersion course, helps students prepare for clinical rotations after time away from the curriculum. These course are typically provided for MD/PhD students. We were interested in the availability of re-entry courses for students pursuing other dual degrees or one-year fellowships.

In October 2015, a survey about re-entry courses was sent to the OSR and the Group on Student Affairs (GSA) through their respective listservs. Participants responded through an online Google Form or by e-mail. The results are summarized below. Free-text comments are at the end.

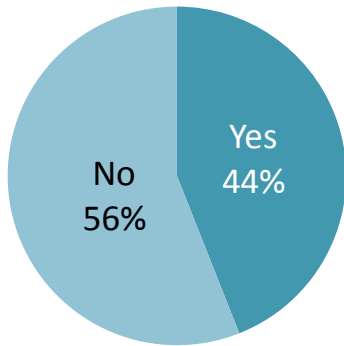
Survey dates: Oct. 12, 2015 – Nov. 6, 2015

Responses: 25 (15 students, 10 faculty; no duplication of schools)

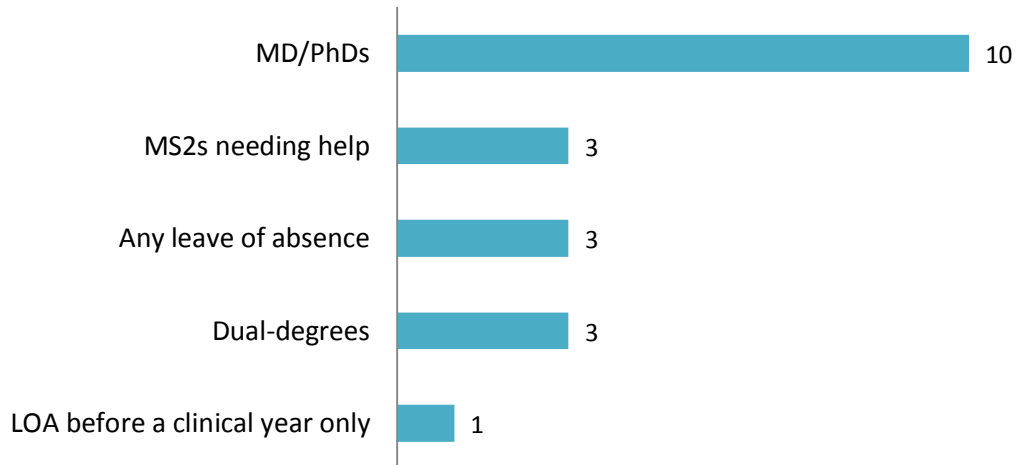
Schools responding

- ▶ Frank H. Netter, MD School of Medicine at Quinnipiac University
- ▶ FSU
- ▶ Georgetown University School of Medicine
- ▶ Indiana University School of Medicine
- ▶ Loma Linda University School of Medicine
- ▶ Ioyola SSOM
- ▶ Medical College of Wisconsin
- ▶ Northwestern Feinberg
- ▶ NYU
- ▶ Oakland William Beaumont
- ▶ OHSU
- ▶ Pritzker School of Medicine
- ▶ Rush Medical College
- ▶ TCMC
- ▶ Tulane University School of Medicine
- ▶ U South Dakota
- ▶ UCSD
- ▶ University of Massachusetts Medical School
- ▶ University of Miami
- ▶ University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine
- ▶ University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
- ▶ UoU
- ▶ UPR SOM
- ▶ UT Southwestern
- ▶ WashU

1. My school offers a reentry/clinical refresher course for students who take time away from medical school. n=25.



2. Who can take the course? Choose all that apply. n=11.

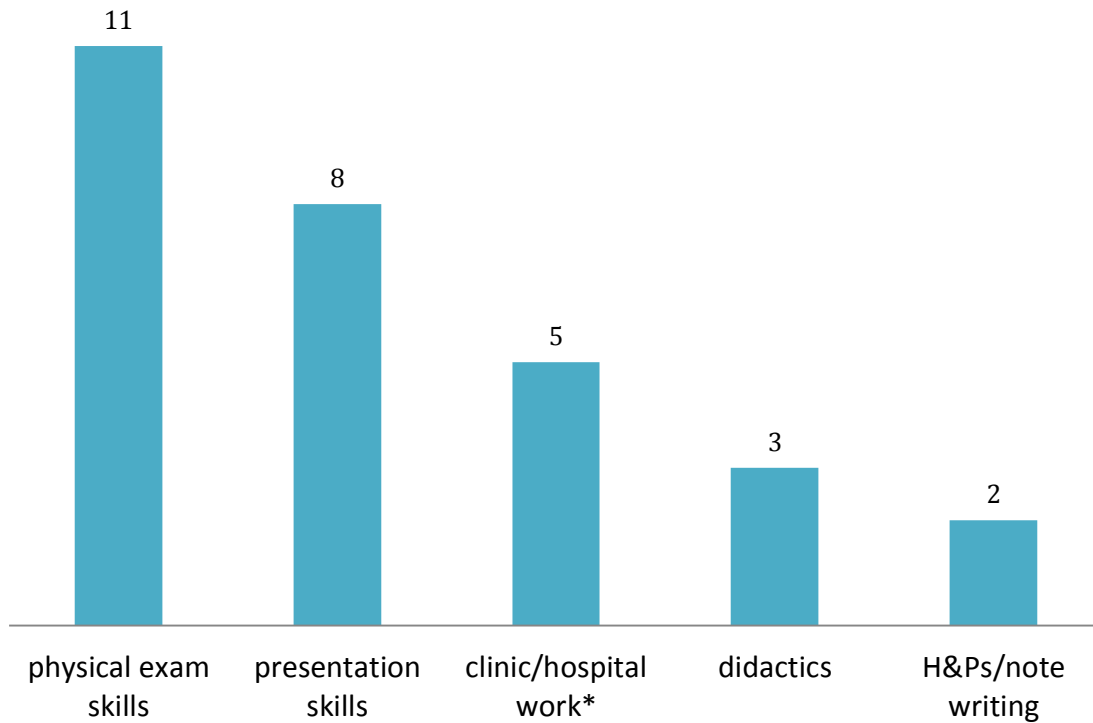


** One school does not have dual-degree or MSTP programs. One school offers individualized refreshers but did not indicate who was eligible.*

3. How long is the course? n=11.

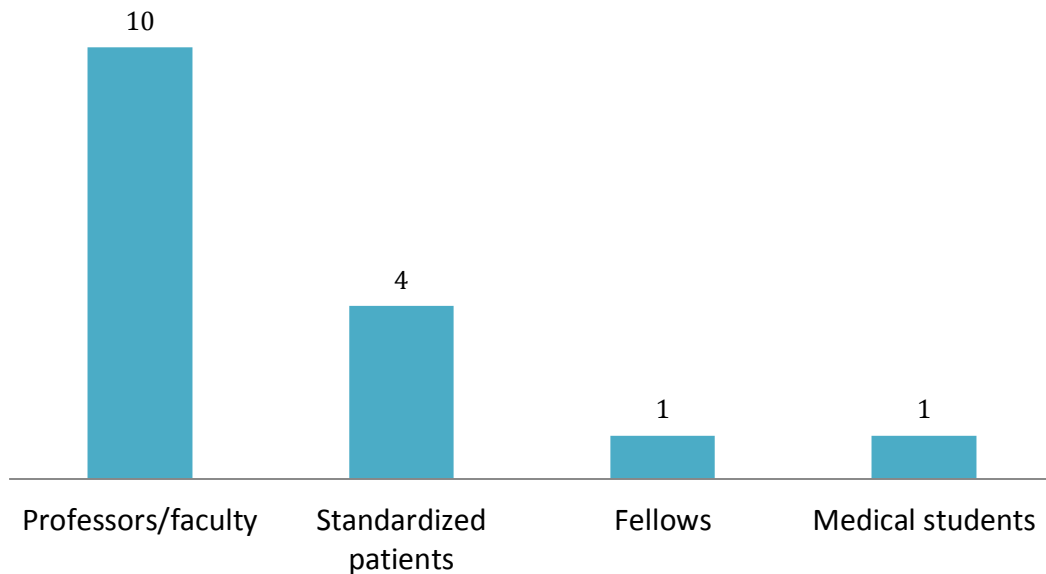
- ▶ As long as student requires
- ▶ Individualized
- ▶ 22 hours (one 1/2 per week for six weeks)
- ▶ several ethics sessions, general orientation to clerkships and basic H&P review, then ~1 week of inpatient and outpatient experiences
- ▶ 1 week
- ▶ A couple of days
- ▶ 1-2 weeks as space is available
- ▶ 1 week
- ▶ Meets for an hour or two 2-4 days/week for four weeks (at least for mdphds)
- ▶ Depends on the needs of the student
- ▶ 2 weeks

4. What does the course offer? n=11.



* some clinical work noted as observation-only

5. Who teaches the course? n=11.



6. Are students charged a separate fee for this course? n=11.

11 respondents answered "no."

7. Please describe the course or add any information you think would be helpful. n=8.

- ▶ 1 week in the ED seeing and presenting patients under the supervision of faculty
- ▶ Initial meeting to explore insight and current status in terms of clinical skills; session 2- demo with SP Hx & PE; sessions to practice hx & PE. Diff dx and assessment in patient note; practice with clinical scenarios and # of sessions depending on student's performance. Feedback offered after every session. Faculty member evaluates videos recorded during practice sessions and feedback offered. Student completes an evaluation at the end.
- ▶ It is very individualized. The student meets with the people who run the clinical skills center and they determine what the student needs as far as a brush up on skills and then they work with them.
- ▶ It's really informal and not really integrated into the curriculum. It was started by students who had previously taught reviews for Step 1.

- ▶ [note: from e-mail; edited for brevity] Our students who are in the MD/PhD program take their Step 1, and then go to the research full time. They start back by taking the FM rotation. This is usually in a rural setting where the student is the only trainee in the clinic, and works one-on-one with any of the physicians in that group. The goals of the course include an ability to do an H&P and write up the reports, some focus on differentials and plans. Students typically see patients from all age groups, and in many of the settings are involved in prenatal care, deliveries, (sometimes including C-sections), and newborn exams. Although these students seem to still feel like they are behind the new classmates they join, we are finding that they have the self-directed study skills to catch on and be on track with others within a few weeks.
- ▶ The 1-2 week refresher is set up through the MSTP office. They place us in whatever service has room and we are simply in an observational role. We are encouraged to present, but not required to.
- ▶ There is no formal course offered, but our Clinical Skills Specialist offers extra help and/or practice for anyone who feels they need it before returning from time off.
- ▶ We have two courses that are offered- clinical sciences review and the clinical enrichment elective.