



2015 Predoctoral Educators Workshop

LOL – Learn Out Loud: Turning Up the Volume to Engage Predoctoral Students in Periodontology: Small Group Discussion Outcomes

At the 2015 Predoctoral Educators Workshop, attendees gathered in small groups to discuss a series of questions on dental student engagement in periodontology. Their thoughts have been summarized and are presented below.

Engage students in periodontics while keeping faculty commitment reasonable by:

- Inviting predoctoral students to participate in surgical rotations (e.g. grading, critiquing, and evaluating)
- Asking students to complete rotation summaries for review and discussion
- Assigning a periodontal resident to serve as a consultant to student groups
- Requesting a Lunch 'n Learn program at your institution
- Encouraging students to join or start a local perio club

Engage students in periodontics while addressing student time burden by:

- Giving them exposure to periodontics early on (e.g. share case presentations and photos with students)
- Fostering an interest in periodontics throughout their four years in dental school
- Utilizing social media or YouTube to regularly reach out to students

To demonstrate to school administration the impact of student engagement in periodontics, as well as possible effects on student satisfaction, clinical outcomes, and/or clinical revenue, consider collecting data on the following metrics:

- Students selecting periodontics
- Trends in student needs
- Satisfaction rates among periodontal residents
- Changes in referral from predoctoral to graduate

- Number of referrals based on building layout
- Interdisciplinary or cross-training
- Disease level and diagnostic codes
- Predoctoral clinic production
- Treatment planning process among periodontal faculty
- Patients seen on a regular basis (recall system)
- Risks and financial costs associated with failure causes
- Burden for treating complex cases
- Efficiency of maintenance care
- Number of affiliations

Expose students to the full scope of periodontal therapy by:

- Incorporating clinical surgical experiences into a student's curriculum
- Ensuring uniform quality of care through one-on-one supervision and by observing other schools
- Assigning periodontal residents to mentor students
- Inviting students to participate in surgical rotations
- Encouraging students to obtain periodontal externships

Choose students for honors/selective programs by utilizing an application process that focuses on:

- Grades
- Class rank
- Clinical performance

AAP's Education Committee encourages you to experiment with these practices, evaluate their effectiveness at your institution, and share your outcomes with us. Please email any comments or suggestions to Jasmine Alkhatib at jasmine@perio.org.