

CASE REPORT

Self-Advocates as Medical Educators and Family-Advocates as Medical Educators: *Collaborative Teamwork with Patients with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities and Family Caregivers.*

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Background: People with disabilities make up about 19% of the population, and about 5% of this group include people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). This vulnerable population experiences disparities in healthcare access, more frequent and severe negative health outcomes compared to the population without disabilities, and are less likely to receive preventative health care. Patients with I/DD often require interventions from multiple disciplines to address their complex needs. Healthcare professionals may not understand nor do they consistently receive training in how to include patients with I/DD and family members (who are often the long-term caregivers) in the care plan.

Purpose: Self-Advocates as Medical Educators/Family Advocates as Medical Educators (SAME/FAME) uses a Team-Based Learning pedagogy throughout specific learning modules to provide collaborative, interdisciplinary coursework. It incorporates web-based and onsite didactic course material, simulation exercises, reflection activities, and assignments to improve the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of students from multiple health disciplines in the delivery of patient and family centered care to patients with I/DD.

Discussion: This course moves beyond discipline/profession-specific education efforts to engage in interactive learning with each other, medical providers, and self/family-advocates with developmental disabilities. Attendees will see how self-advocates and family advocates work together in key roles to plan, teach, and evaluate an interprofessional medical education program.

Objective: Following this presentation, attendees in this interprofessional audience will identify least one way that self-advocates with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their family caregivers can teach entry-level healthcare professional students about their health challenges and potential solutions, in order to promote positive health outcomes across the lifespan.