Abstract

The purpose of the Lewis Collaborative in Pediatric Dentistry is to increase access to pediatric dental care by providing training to general dentists through a hybrid learning model. In addition, the effectiveness of the participant’s learning experience will be assessed. The Lewis Collaborative cohort will complete three learning modules in pediatric dentistry that will cover basic and advanced topics in pediatric dentistry. The cohort, consisting of 4 participants, complete various activities at home that are clinically based to complement assigned readings. Clinical activity will be integrated with patient care provided by the Pediatric Dentistry Residents. Outcome assessments will be measured on both the individual and program level using survey instruments administered at the beginning of the program, at the end of the program and at yearly follow-up.

Methods

The Lewis Collaborative is composed of three modules, given over approximately one year, that cover a broad range of pediatric dental topics that range from basic restorative procedures to providing dental treatment to medically complex children. The cohort, consisting of 4 participants, complete various activities at home that are clinically based to complement assigned readings. Clinical activity will be integrated with patient care provided by the Pediatric Dentistry Residents.

Discussion

Use of the hybrid model is not common in continuing education in dentistry. Most CE is composed of traditional lectures that do not include active participation by the participant. Use of case-based activities in this program seeks to have the participant apply the assigned readings to real cases they have seen in their practices. This should increase participant engagement and facilitate their learning experience.

Expected results are that the participants will have an increase in their knowledge and skills in treating pediatric dental patients which will result in greater access to care for children in their practice areas.

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