

Cooperative learning

Cooperative learning can enhance the quality of internships for students by promoting teamwork, communication, and collaborative problem-solving skills. By working in diverse groups on clinically relevant tasks, students learn to leverage each other's strengths, share knowledge, and develop a deeper understanding of patient care. Cooperative learning fosters a supportive educational environment, encourages active participation, and enhances critical thinking, all of which contribute to a more engaging and effective clinical learning experience.



How:

Objective; implement cooperative learning strategies in clinical settings.

1. Form diverse teams; organize students into small, diverse teams, ensuring a mix of skills, backgrounds, and levels of experience to enrich learning and collaboration.
2. Define clear objectives; establish clear learning and collaboration objectives for each session, aligning them with clinical competencies and professional standards.
3. Assign roles and responsibilities; assign specific roles within teams (e.g., leader, recorder, presenter) to distribute responsibilities and encourage active participation from all members.
4. Design collaborative activities; create clinical scenarios, case studies, or problem-solving activities that require team collaboration for successful completion.
5. Facilitate and monitor; act as a facilitator to guide discussions, provide resources, and offer support as needed. Monitor group dynamics to ensure equitable participation and effective collaboration.
6. Reflect and debrief; conduct debriefing sessions after activities to reflect on teamwork, communication, and problem-solving strategies used.
7. Provide feedback and evaluation; offer constructive feedback on both individual contributions and team performance. Evaluate based on collaboration, problem-solving, and clinical reasoning.

Special requirements:

Prepare to mediate conflicts within teams, providing tools and strategies for effective conflict resolution and positive communication.

Ensure to design tasks and roles to encourage equitable participation from all team members.

Time required:

Spend 1-2 hours preparing collaborative activities, including scenario development and role assignments.

Allocate 2-4 hours for the completion of collaborative activities, including setup, execution, and initial debriefing.

Dedicate an additional 1-2 hours for in-depth debriefing and feedback sessions.