

The Impact of Waste in Health Care on the Bottom Line

1. Main Objective:

To enhance students' awareness of the impact of wasteful spending in health care on their own practice and the larger fiscal issues regarding health care spending and how it impacts the ability to provide quality care to those who need it most.

2. The Exercise: Describe briefly in 3-4 sentences

Students choose a specific area of interest from the following broad categories and research the cost to the Americans who must pay for the healthcare of themselves and/or others.

Examples come from the following categories (found and explained in the article):

http://healthaffairs.org/healthpolicybriefs/brief_pdfs/healthpolicybrief_82.pdf

Topics: Non use of Preventative care best practices
Non use of Patient Safety best practices
Failures of Care coordination
Overtreatment of conditions

They develop an online Presentation to share with colleagues that is no more than 10 slides and focuses primarily on Fiscal Issues

3. Evaluation: Describe briefly how students are evaluated or include grading rubric

Students are graded using a rubric that evaluates the introduction of the topic, information about the topic, the fiscal impact of waste on the health care at either the state, local or national level, they must provide resources, and of course, grammar, writing, etc counts.

Rubric is found on page 3.

4. Other: Where in the curriculum, prerequisites, other measures that lead to its success as an effective teaching/learning tool?

This is a new measure not found in other courses in the curriculum. This is one of the final courses for the FNP students and is a co requisite course with their primary care clinical practicum. Students have commented that it makes them think about what they are prescribing and thinking about as they get ready to practice as well as having conversations

with their preceptors about the need for evidence based practice instead of defensive medicine.

The following is a quote from one of the students regarding the exercise:

Overall, I thought it a great project to get me thinking big picture on how financial decisions impact our healthcare system. Majority of this course is new to me. I have very little political knowledge or involvement. Taking a moment to learn has as a provider what I recommend or order affects the system beyond the patient was a new concept to learn. Healthcare is more than writing a prescription. The project wasn't over bearing, but gave me the opportunity to research a topic and learn the real financial burden it possesses. The article you gave in our syllabus was extremely helpful to point me in a direction for further research. If I hadn't had that I may have struggled to find a place to start. Posting the presentations online was helpful to sit down and really read through them. Thank you for the learning opportunity and helping me grasp the bigger picture of healthcare and the political world.

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RUBRIC**

Categories	Above Expectations	Meets Expectations	Below Expectations
Introduction of Topic	Gives introduction regarding topic and importance to practice 10 points	Introduces topic and speaks in generalities regarding the importance to practice 8 points	Introduces topic but does not speak to the importance to practice 5 point
Information on Topic	Gives concise information regarding topic and background, how we got where we are, what are the ramifications of the situation 15 points	Gives some information regarding topic, but lacks depth of understanding regarding how the history of the situation impacts the present 12 points	States what the situation is at present, but does little to explain how and why we are where we are today 10 points
Fiscal Impact	Looks at fiscal impact from at least three different viewpoints: 15 points	Looks at fiscal impact from two different viewpoints: 12 points	Looks at fiscal impact from one viewpoint 10 points

