Curriculum Development Centers Program

Awardee of The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology

HEALTH IT WORKFORCE CURRICULUM
COMPONENT BLUEPRINT
Version 2.0/Spring 2011

Component Number: 1
Component Name: Introduction to Health Care and Public Health in the U.S.

Component Description (from FOA):
A survey of how health care and public health are organized and services delivered in the U.S. Covers public policy, relevant organizations and their interrelationships, professional roles, legal and regulatory issues, and payment systems. Must also address health reform initiatives in the U.S.

Assigned Institution: Oregon Health & Science University
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Workforce Roles:
- Implementation Managers
- Implementation Support Specialist
- Practice Workflow and Information Management Redesign Specialist
- Technical/Software Support
- Trainer

Component Objectives
At the completion of this component, the student will be able to:
1. Describe the medical model of healthcare in the US
2. Describe the administrative and functional organization of entities that deliver healthcare in the US, both in the inpatient as well as the outpatient setting
3. Discuss the role of various healthcare professionals, their education, and certification/licensure requirements
4. Distinguish between public and private funding for healthcare

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5. Describe health care financing structures, including insurance plans, third-party payers, Medicare, and Medicaid
6. Describe the organization and structures of HMOs, PPOs, and IPAs
7. Describe methods of billing and reimbursement in healthcare
8. Describe elements of coding and charge capture in healthcare
9. Compare and contrast the function of the Joint Commission, FDA, CDC, and NIH, with an emphasis on EHRs
10. Discuss legal issues in medicine including HIPAA, confidentiality, medical malpractice, and tort reform
11. Describe the organization of public health in the US at the federal, state, and local levels, and discuss the role of public health in averting epidemics and bioterrorism
12. Describe evidence-based medicine, clinical practice guidelines, and quality indicators in medicine. Identify key organizations involved in developing clinical guidelines.
13. Discuss the key issues driving health care reform in the U.S.

Component Units with Objectives and Topics

Unit 1: Introduction and History of Modern Healthcare in the US

Description:
Introductory unit with description of definitions of terms used in the component, and an emphasis of paradigm shifts in health care, including the transition from patient-centric to physician-centric care, the transition from individual care to interdisciplinary team-based care, and the central role of technology in healthcare delivery. This unit will also emphasize the core values in US healthcare.

Objectives:
1. Delineate key definitions in the healthcare domain
2. Distinguish between healthcare systems and healthcare practice
3. Outline key paradigm shifts in medicine
4. Describe in overview terms the technology used in the delivery and administration of healthcare
5. Discuss core values in American healthcare

Topics:
1. Description of terms commonly used in health care including:
    a. Health
    b. Healthcare
    c. Healthcare system
    d. Hospital
    e. Clinic
    f. Public health

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2. Discussion of distinguishing features between healthcare systems and healthcare practice

3. Discussion of critical paradigm shifts in medicine including
    a. physician-centric to patient-centric care
    b. individual to team-based care
    c. physician-kept records to personal health records

4. The dominant role of technology in healthcare delivery - technology used in the delivery and administration of healthcare, with emphasis on technology used in:
    a. Clinical medicine
    b. Telemedicine
    c. Pharmacy
    d. Rehabilitation
    e. Dentistry
    f. healthcare education

5. Discussion of core values in American healthcare

Unit 2: Delivering Healthcare Part I

Description:
Depiction of the medical model of healthcare in the US, with an overview of the organization of healthcare and the physical structure of healthcare delivery in the inpatient and long term care settings, with an overview of the organization of the VA system. This unit is intended primarily for the student who does not have a background in healthcare, though the constituents of this unit will be described at a relatively advanced level.

Objectives:
1. Describe the organization of healthcare at the federal, state and local levels
2. Describe the organization of the VA system
3. Describe the structure and function of hospital clinical and administrative units
4. Describe different types of long term care facilities, with an emphasis on their function

Topics:
1. The organization of healthcare at the federal, state and local level
2. The organization of the VA system
3. Inpatient care - Hospital structure including
    a. governing board
    b. medical staff and hospital administration
    c. ancillary services

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d. business office
4. Inpatient care - Hospital structure including
a. Inpatient care areas
b. ICUs and CCUs
c. hospital ancillary services
d. the ER
5. long term care facilities, including
a. nursing homes
b. specialty care hospitals
c. specialized rehabilitation units

Unit 3: Delivering Healthcare Part II

Description:
Depiction of the medical model of healthcare in the US, with an overview of the organization of healthcare and the physical structure of healthcare delivery in the outpatient setting, and with an overview of the people involved in the delivery of healthcare, their education and licensing. This unit is intended primarily for the student who does not have a background in healthcare, though the constituents of this unit will be described at a relatively advanced level.

Objectives:
1. Describe the organization of clinical health care delivery in the outpatient setting, and the organization of outpatient health care delivery (including organizational characteristics such as large medical groups, IPAs, small and single-provider offices, and types of outpatient environments such as multispecialty offices, single specialty offices, community health centers, urgent care centers and teaching/training clinics)
2. Describe the organization of ancillary health care delivery in the outpatient setting
3. Discuss the role of different healthcare providers, with an emphasis on the delivery of care in an interdisciplinary setting, and their education and licensing.

Topics:
1. Outpatient care - primary care clinics; distinction between family practice, internal medicine, and pediatrics services, and the organizational characteristics of outpatient care delivery settings.
2. Outpatient care - subspecialty clinics; medical and surgical specialties
3. Outpatient care - urgent care clinics and walk-in clinics
4. Outpatient laboratories, radiological services, and ancillary services (e.g. home health, hospice, PT, OT)
5. People - Overview of different healthcare providers and their roles in delivering care to patients as part of an interdisciplinary team, including:
a. Healthcare providers - physicians, nurses, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, radiology and laboratory technicians, nuclear medicine technicians,

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sonographers, physical and occupational therapists, therapists, Pharmacists, emergency medical technicians and paramedics

b. Ancillary healthcare workers - billing and coding specialists, front and back office staff, hospital support staff

6. education and licensing of healthcare providers

Unit 4: Financing Healthcare Part I

Description:
Overview of health care financing, including healthcare insurance at the organizational and consumer levels. This unit will also include a brief discussion of the cost of healthcare services, managed care, and concepts of coding and billing for services.

Objectives:

1. Describe models of health care financing in the US and in selected other countries
2. Describe the organization and function of Medicare and Medicaid
3. Describe the organization and structure of network-based managed care health insurance programs

Topics:

1. Distinction between publically-funded and privatized healthcare
2. Single payer systems versus multiple payer systems
3. Insurance and third party payers
4. Medicare
5. Medicaid
6. Organization and structure of network-based managed care health insurance programs including
    a. health maintenance organizations (HMOs)
    b. preferred provider organizations(PPOs)
    c. independent practice associations (IPAs)

Unit 5: Financing Healthcare Part II

Description:
This unit will discuss the cost of healthcare services, managed care, and concepts of coding and billing for services.

Objectives:

1. Describe the history and role of the health insurance industry in financing healthcare in the United States.
2. Review the billing process and understand coding and code sets in the claims process.

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3. Identify different fee-for-service and episode-of-care reimbursement methodologies used by insurers in the claims process.
4. Review factors responsible for escalating healthcare expenditures in the United States.
5. Discuss methods of controlling rising medical costs.

Topics:

1. Billing and reimbursement in medicine
2. Overview of coding concepts - DRGs, ICD-9, CPT
3. The EMTALA Act and its effect on medicine
4. Capitation and managed care
5. Concierge medicine
6. Controlling costs in medicine
    a. Reducing excessive expenses in diagnosis
    b. Reducing excessive expenses in management
7. The cost of uninsured care including the growing trend of inappropriate use of the ED for the delivery of primary care

Unit 6: Regulating Healthcare

Description:
Overview of regulation of health care, including regulatory and professional organizations. This unit also discusses the regulation of safety in medicine, and details key legal aspects of medicine.

Objectives:

1. Describe the role of JCAHO and the process of accreditation and certification of health care organizations in the US
2. Identify the major health care regulatory bodies in the US
3. Describe the basic concepts of law in the United States: the legal system, sources of law, classification of laws, the court system, and the trial process
4. Describe legal aspects of medicine including standard of care, statute of limitations, the Good Samaritan Laws, medical malpractice, medical liability system reforms, patient and physician rights and responsibilities, and the provisions of HIPAA
5. Discuss the issue of patient safety in US medicine, JCAHO evoked requirements for patient safety

Topics:

1. The role of the Joint Commission (JCAHO) in the accreditation and certification of health care organizations and programs in the United States
2. Other regulatory bodies - ABMS, AMA, URAC
3. Safety in medicine
4. Legal issues including

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a. medical malpractice
b. tort reform
c. overview of confidentiality and privacy concerns
d. the doctor-patient relationship

Unit 7: Public Health Part I

Description:
Overview of public health, with a brief history of public health in the US, description and definitions of terms in public health, public health roles, and the organization of public health systems in the US.

Objectives:
1. Distinguish between public and private health
2. Delineate the historic timeline and achievements of public health in the US
3. Define and discuss key terminology of public health
4. Illustrate the general organization of public health agencies and data flow
5. Evaluate and explain the impact and value of public health

Topics:
1. History of Public Health in the US
2. Value of Public health to society
3. Public health definitions - incidence, morbidity, mortality rates, prevalence, relative risk
4. Public Health roles - policy, epidemiology, monitoring
5. Public health laws and policies
6. Organization of public health care in the US - federal, state and local public health departments
7. Overview of the impact of major public health programs, such as the eradication of smallpox

Unit 8: Public Health Part II

Description:
Overview of public health, with an emphasis on chronic and communicable diseases. This unit also discusses the role of public health in averting epidemics and bioterrorism.

Objectives:
1. Give examples of and explain the general program categories of public health, including communicable disease, chronic disease, terrorism response, and environmental public health
2. Discuss the activities and achievements of public health in the realm of communicable disease

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3. Compare and contrast the different types of terrorism and the different public health responses
4. Describe chronic disease activities and achievements of public health, and the work of public health in the realm of environmental health hazards

Topics:

1. Overview of communicable diseases and the role of public health organizations in mitigating the severity of epidemics
2. The role of public health in averting bioterrorism
3. Overview of chronic diseases including diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, cancers, and obesity with a focus on economic and social cost of management.

Unit 9: The Evolution and Reform of Healthcare in the US

Description:
Overview of healthcare trends including evidence based medicine, quality and practice-care recommendations, comparative effectiveness research, and an overview of health care reform initiatives in the US.

Objectives:

1. Describe evidence-based medicine, clinical practice guidelines, and quality indicators in medicine.
2. Introduction to the patient-centered medical home
3. Discuss the key issues driving health care reform in the U.S.

Topics:

1. Evidence Based Practice
2. Clinical Practice Guidelines
3. Quality Indicators and Comparative Effectiveness
4. The Patient-Centered Medical Home
5. Healthcare Reform in the US

Unit Elements:
Instructor manual, lectures, self-assessment questions, discussion questions and/or activities, assignments and exercises

Format:
Slides with narration (voiceover PowerPoint in Flash format), suitable for lecture, team-based learning, or online independent study; lecture transcripts (MS Word documents); and audio files in mp3 format for each lecture; self-assessment and discussion questions and keys (MS Word documents).

Local Resources Required for Implementation:

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Computer, Microsoft Office, PowerPoint, Flash player (free download), mp3 player (free download), Learning Management System (optional)

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