MEDICINE
INTERDEPARTMENTAL

M-ID 753 COMPETENT CARE FOR LGBT 4 Credit Hours
ELECTIVE
Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered (LGBT) individuals have a set of unique health concerns and problems, including higher rates of depression, suicide attempts, alcoholism, cardiovascular disease, some cancers, and sexually transmitted diseases. Their special needs are often overlooked or ignored due to transparency of LGBT individuals and their avoidance of routine healthcare due to a real or imagined fear of discrimination and rejection by physicians. Although a significant segment of society is gay or lesbian, physicians receive minimal formal training in their care. The goal of this elective is to provide the specific training needed for physicians to effectively deal with the healthcare concerns and to provide medically and culturally competent healthcare to this sexual minority and vulnerable population. At the end of this four-week elective, students will be able to: * Define psychosocial issues and risks of self-disclosure by LGBT individuals. * Identify barriers to healthcare for LGBT individuals and methods to overcome those barriers. * Demonstrate appropriate history taking and interviewing skills to foster patient trust. * Identify and successfully address the unique healthcare problems facing LGBT individuals. Learning activities include patient care experiences with the LGBT population, assigned readings, lectures, case discussions, simulations, and visits to LGBT agencies and organizations. Faculty permission is required prior to registration. Instructional methods: Through assigned readings, didactic lectures, seminars and panel discussions, students will learn about the healthcare issues of the LGBT community that impact their health, such as coming out, non-normative stressors, family planning, etc. A series of case discussions and simulations will be conducted to demonstrate comprehension of didactic material. Clinical practice opportunities will be held during the elective for direct patient encounters with members of this population, including clinics with Dr. Mark Goodman and Dr. Susan Swindells (HIV/ID Clinic). (Dr. Goodman’s patient population varies from 25-90% LGBT patients on any given day; students will be directed to the care of LGBT patients while in these practices/clinics.) Each student will keep a reflective journal in which the student will record his/his observations and analysis of patients seen and sites visited. This journal will be reviewed with the student by faculty. Visits to various agencies will be arranged and include the following: * PFLAG (Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) meeting. * GSA (Gay Straight Alliance) meeting at Creighton/UNO. * Meeting with legal counsel to address access to care and others concerns regarding insurance coverage. * Weekend training with NAP (Nebraska AIDS Project) and counseling/testing site experience at either NAP or Douglas County Health Department. * Palliative care for those with AIDS. Activity-Hours/Week. Didactic conferences-6. Independent learning-12. Reflective journal-2. Patient care-12. Agency site visits-8. Prerequisite: Pre-arranged with Dr. James Medder.
Instructor: Dr. James Medder and Dr. Gary Beck Dallaghan.
Contact: Jolene Wees; jolene.wees@unmc.edu; 402-559-9327; MSB 2520 (Zip 3075).
Typically Offered: March.
Capacity: Variable.
Visiting Student Information: This course is NOT available to visiting students.