Abstract Title: “Medical student views of radiology, participation in interest groups, and interest in a state society medical student mentorship program”
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Purpose

Our survey examines the current exposure to and interest in radiology during medical school, and it evaluates what medical students would desire in a state society sponsored mentorship program.
Materials and Methods

An 8-item radiology exposure and interest online survey was created to evaluate the Florida medical students’ current radiology exposure, access to interest groups and interest in a mentorship program.

All 9 Florida medical schools were invited to participate via identical email instructions and survey link.
Survey Questions

1. What Medical School do you attend?

2. What medical school year are you in currently?

3. How would you rate the level of exposure to radiology in medical school? (5: excessive, 3: just right, 1: none)

4. What is your interest level for a career in radiology? (5: very interested, 1: not interested at all)

5. Does your medical school have a radiology and/or interventional radiology interest group?

6. Are you a member of your medical school’s radiology interest group?
7. Would you be interested in a mentorship program organized by the Florida Radiology Society Resident and Fellow Section?

8. What would be the greatest benefit to you in a mentorship program? (Rank in order of importance, 1: most important, 6: least important)

1. Networking opportunities
2. Research opportunities
3. Web based radiology lectures
4. Radiology case presentations
5. Shadowing opportunities
6. Career information and guidance in the field of radiology
Results

• 5 medical schools agreed to participate, with approximately 400 students per school

• Thus, about 2,000 Florida medical students were given the opportunity to complete the survey

• 213 medical students completed the survey, giving a 10.65% Response Rate

• 35.2% of the respondents were in the second year of medical school.

• Over half (53%) chose “2” when asked about the level of exposure to radiology in medical school.
Results

• 69.9% of students had access to a radiology and/or interventional radiology interest group.

• 21.3% of students were members of the school’s interest group.

• 56% of participants responded “yes” and 27% responded “not sure” when asked if they would be interested in a state sponsored mentorship program.

• Web-based radiology lectures and career information and guidance in the field of radiology were ranked as the most important, while shadowing was thought to be the least important.
Figure 1: Survey Respondents Demographic Characteristics

Relative Number of Responses per Participating Medical School

Respondent Distribution by Class Year

- NSU: 18
- UF: 35
- LECOM-B: 53
- UCF: 70
- FSU

- MS 1: 35
- MS 2: 52
- MS 3: 75
- MS 4
Figure 2: Radiology Exposure

How would you rate the level of exposure to Radiology in medical school?

1 None
2
3 Just Right
4
5 Excessive
Figure 3: Radiology Interest

What is your interest level for a career in radiology?

1 Not interested at all
2
3
4
5 Very Interested
Does your medical school have a radiology and/or interventional radiology interest group?

- Yes
- No
- Not Sure

Are you a member of your medical school's radiology interest group?

- Yes
- No
- Not Sure

Would you be interested in a mentorship program organized by the Florida Radiology Society Resident and Fellow Section?

- Yes
- No
- Not Sure
Figure 5: Interest in Medical Student Mentorship

What would be the greatest benefit to you in a mentorship program?

- Career information and guidance: 26%
- Web based radiology lectures: 26%
- Networking opportunities: 20%
- Shadowing opportunities: 13%
- Radiology case presentations: 7%
- Research opportunities: 0%
Conclusions

Medical students responded favorably to the possibility of a state organized medical student mentorship program with a strong interest in career information and guidance in the field of radiology as well as web-based radiology lectures.

Successful implementation of a statewide mentorship program may spark interest in radiology-related careers among medical students.