

COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL EDUCATION

REPORT TO MEMBERS

Renal Course – Year 1 2006-2007 Academic Year Class of 2011

Phillip Hall, M.D., course director for the Year 1 Renal Course presented his end-of-course report to the Curriculum Steering Council on March 2, 2007. The overall rating of the course continues to be outstanding with 97% of students rating the course as good or excellent. PBL sessions, seminars, and anatomy sessions were all highly rated with particularly outstanding ratings for the seminars which are primarily organized in small group format. Dr. Hall noted changes to the course that were implemented in 2006. These include:

1. Modification of week 3 PBL case.
2. Rewriting of all SAQs.
3. New CAPP question week 2.
4. Replacement of Ca/P/PTH seminar week 3 with seminar on proximal tubule function.
5. Altered timing of epithelial cell polarity seminar with new reading.
6. Inclusion of renal embryology in anatomy.
7. Addition of 3 new faculty members.

Student feedback regarding the Renal Course was overall excellent in terms of course content, organization, and faculty ratings, although there were some areas noted that merit attention for improvement. Specifically,

1. There was significant improvement in the SAQs.
2. More SAQs were requested for week 3.
3. Seminar reading assignments were appropriate to the seminar learning objectives.
4. Small group size for seminars was considered to be very effective.
5. More learning objectives were requested for PBL cases in weeks 2 and 3.
6. Deletion of the calcium/phosphorous seminar was seen as a deficit.
7. Pharmacology seminars still not highly regarded with concerns raised about content and individual faculty.
8. The new Koeppen and Stanton textbook (4th edition) will be recommended.
9. Two CAPPs do not appear to require substantive integration of knowledge and may need to be rewritten.
10. Several CAPP answers were superficial suggesting the need to be more specific regarding detail/depth of answer expected.

In response to student comments and faculty feedback, Dr. Hall has recommended the following course revisions for the 2007-2008 academic year.

1. Increase complexity and enrich learning objectives for PBL cases in weeks 2 and 3.
2. Prepare additional SAQs for week 3, especially dealing with learning objectives for acid based physiology.
3. New or modified CAPP for week 2.
4. Add learning objectives for renal handling of calcium and phosphorous to the “proximal tubule function” seminar.

5. Add learning objective for glomerular podocyte biology to glomerular function seminar and focus on renal homeostasis.
6. Add sagittal cut section of kidney to first anatomy session in course.
7. Work with pharmacology thread leaders to enhance content of seminar with more focus on mechanism of action and renal role.
8. Recommend new addition of Keoppen text.

The Curriculum Steering Council thanked Dr. Hall for his report and congratulated him on another excellent year. The CSC accepted his recommendations for course revision for the coming academic year.

Respectfully submitted,



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