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Promoting Interprofessional Education through a Student led Community Health Screening Event

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Promoting Interprofessional Education through a Student led Community Health Screening Event.

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Since 2008, a free community health screening event has been offered to the Indianapolis community by the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. This interprofessional event is organized and hosted by pharmacy and physician assistant students and supervised by clinical pharmacy faculty, pharmacy residents and physician assistant faculty. The student leadership team is selected by the faculty; these students acquire project management experience during the planning, implementation and assessment of the event. The student volunteers' gain clinical experience and are provided the opportunity to improve their patient counseling skills during the event. Students from all levels of the pharmacy and PA program are able to participate. Students that are beginning their education are paired with students in the P3, P4 and PA2 year to facilitate a peer learning. Formal assessments of student learning that occurs during these events have been conducted through pre- and post- surveys to identify knowledge and skills gained by participating in the event. During the event, the following screenings are offered: complete fasting lipid panel, fasting blood glucose, body mass index, blood pressure assessment, osteoporosis screenings via peripheral ultrasound, and visual acuity. Participants receive results at the event through point-of-care testing and are provided counseling regarding lifestyle strategies to improve their health. Participants with abnormal results determined by national guidelines are referred to follow-up with a primary care provider for further evaluation. The variety of screenings offered provides the students a diverse experience by applying clinical guidelines, and providing health education and medication counseling.