

PLO 2 COMMUNICATOR AND COLLABORATOR

To prepare graduates that effectively communicate and collaborate with clients, substitute decision-makers, communities, and other professionals.

1. Describe in detail how each of the following supported you in developing your skills as a communicator and collaborator and how you demonstrated competency as a communicator and collaborator in:
 - a) Clinical course (DH201 or DH301)
 - b) Community Placement (Level 3 or 4)
2. Using self-reflection, identify one area for improvement as a communicator or collaborator and discuss how you can improve your competency. Be detailed.

PLO 2: Communicator and Collaborator

1. Describe in detail how each of the following supported you in developing your skills as a communicator and collaborator and how you demonstrated competency as a communicator and collaborator in:

a) Clinical course (DH201 or DH301)

During both DH201 and DH301, I have been exposed to a wide population, many people from different age groups and backgrounds. This has allowed me to gain knowledge in what some folks are receptive to and how to communicate effectively. The support provided has been discussion of stress reducing protocols for those suffering from dental anxiety. We reviewed deep breathing, full explanation of procedures, creating a comfortable environment and having open discussion for what works for that client specifically. Another way the clinical course has supported me as a communicator and collaborator is through the completion of Special Olympics. I genuinely enjoyed both ~~the~~^{the} modules and the volunteer day at CADH. I think it's incredibly important as a health care professional to feel comfortable treating everyone and to have skills to make for an easy visit. Some of these were to not treat individuals with intellectual disabilities like a child, to provide a comfortable quiet

environment. At the School this could be done by utilizing a room with a door. Effective communication is the building block of great care the opportunities have been through both clinical and community placements

b) Through DH305 we were given the opportunity to attend 2 placements, 1 was at an elementary School, another was any group in the community. For both we needed to communicate with the public and coordinate a time and place along with appropriate topics. For my groups community placement we attended the EarlyON Center. This is a location individuals of lower socio-economic status and newcomers to Canada can attend for support. I communicated with the individual at EarlyON in choosing a date and time, along with fabricating a promotional poster for the center. This is an example of interprofessional collaboration. My group also developed a handout on low-cost dental care options that they can take home and do additional research on as needed. My group developed a poster board and verbal presentation for the individuals in attendance. We had a great turnout and received good feedback from the center. By being provided

This opportunity at school it forces us out of our comfort zone and allows for growth and development as a professional. Along with support from the school.

2. Using self-reflection, identify one area of improvement as a communicator or collaborator and discuss how you can improve your competency. Be detailed:

An area of improvement for me as a clinician and a person is through collaboration. I feel I have been exposed to far more opportunities than I could've imagined in this program and it has opened my eyes to the areas of concern in our world. I feel collaboration needs to be incorporated more through professional fields and through non-profit organizations along with outreach work. I am only one person but I see the opportunity to make a difference in my community to provide all individuals with quality dental care regardless of insurance status. To achieve this I will need to effectively collaborate with other professionals. I will need to research groups who would benefit most, and dive into the logistics that will accompany this. To achieve effective collaboration I won't be scared to ask for help or to risk failure. Another way I can aid myself is to be certain what other professionals are registered to do. This

can allow for appropriate referral of clients and connecting with individuals who can help. I want to make a difference in the world and my community, to achieve this effective communication and collaboration will be ~~essential~~ crucial.