Six-Step Approach to Curriculum Development

Olivia Ojano Sheehan, Ph.D.
Robbin Kirkland, Ph.D.
CORE Faculty Development
Objectives

- Participants will be able to:
  - Describe the six-step approach to curriculum development.
  - Develop a 4-year RPAC curriculum using the six-step approach.
Six-Step Approach to Curriculum Development

- Theoretical approach to curriculum development
- Developed by physician educators at Johns Hopkins University Faculty Development Program for Clinical Educators
- Logical, systematic, dynamic, and interactive
Diagram

Overview: A Six-Step Approach

1. Problem ID and General Needs Assessment
   - Health Care Problem
   - Current Approach
   - Ideal Approach

2. Needs Assessment of Targeted Learners

3. Goals and Specific Measurable Objectives

4. Educational Strategists

5. Implementation
   - Individual
   - Program

6. Evaluation and Feedback
Step 1: Problem Identification

- Identify and characterize the healthcare problem
- Know what we are talking about
Step 2: Needs Assessment of Learners

- Know who our target audience is and what our target audience needs
Step 3: Goals and Objectives

- Identify the end toward which an effort is directed
- Goals
- Objectives - specific and measurable (ASK)
- Direct the choice of curricular content
- Clearly communicate the purpose
- Suggest what learning methods will be most effective
Step 4: Educational Strategies

- Identify the educational strategies by which the curricular objectives will be achieved. Involve both content and method.
- Provide the means by which curricular objectives are achieved
Step 5: Implementation

- Identify sufficient resources, support, and others to successfully implement the curriculum
Step 6: Evaluation and Feedback

- Describe the plan to evaluate the effectiveness of the curriculum
- Closes the loop
- Provides information about continuous quality improvement
Curriculum Development and a Football Game

- An Analogy
Determine a Goal
Set Objectives to Reach the Goal
Select Strategies
Implement Strategies
Measure Progress Toward Objectives
Change Strategy When Necessary
Celebrate Goals Achieved
Small Group Activity

- **Step 1:**
  - What is the healthcare problem we need to address?

- **Step 2:**
  - What methods should we employ to obtain the needs assessment information we need?
  - What do you think are these needs?

- **Step 3:**
  - Draft goals and objectives.
Small Group Activity

- **Step 4**
  - What’s included in our content?
  - What educational strategies should we employ (e.g. lecture-discussion, lab, case-based, etc.)?

- **Step 5**
  - Who, what, where are our resources to support the curriculum (e.g. CASC, RPAC Office, OUCOM Administration, DME, speakers, etc.)?

- **Step 6**
  - How will we evaluate the program and our residents?