

MyQuiz™ Tool Improves Resident Performance and Board Passing Rate

Situation:

Typically residents only take 2-3 In-Training Examinations (ITE) within the course of their three years of training to test their knowledge and prepare them for their medical board exams. However, the infrequency of the ITEs made it difficult for Meharry Medical College to evaluate residents' real-time progress and gauge their expected performance on their final boards.

Meharry Medical College partnered with MyEvaluations.com to utilize their MyQuiz™ tool. The MyQuiz management tool gave faculty the ability to test and review residents with a frequency that allowed them to determine an individual's knowledge in a given subject. In addition, the feature added statistical details which provided greater clarity on an individuals' likely performance on the board exam.

Since introducing the MyQuiz tool to the resident training program, faculty have been able to identify areas of weakness among residents, providing greater insight into their medical education. This allows program directors and chief residents to rapidly address potential gaps in training. Performance issues are now identified in real-time as residents' progress through the program. As a result, Meharry Medical College has increased access to interventional education for residents in need of further training and/or education to help improve the board passing rate.

According to Dr. Olumuyiwa Esuruoso, Associate Director of Residency Training at Meharry Medical College, quizzes were developed to ensure that they have mastered the material and skills as they progress through each rotation:

“We were mindful of the fact that adding testing requirements to a resident's already busy schedule was going to be a challenge. The MyQuiz tool needed to provide our residents with a true value and not viewed as punitive, which was not our intention.”

Exams and quizzes are given beginning at the intern level through their third year of residency. The platform allows residents to view their results but also how they did in comparison to their peers. Despite initial apprehension among residents who were concerned about continuous testing, many have come to appreciate the quizzes as they realize that ongoing testing only improves success rates. In fact, last year Meharry Medical College's board pass rate was 93 percent, meaning all but one resident passed their board exam.

Since its implementation in 2011, Meharry Medical College included mid-year and end-of-year exams in consideration of the board exam's cumulative scoring structure and to help prepare residents for the more comprehensive material.

"The high success rate of our residents showed us almost immediately that the MyQuiz program was working," said Dr. Esuruoso. "The quizzes are objective not subjective because numbers don't lie. The MyQuiz tool ensures residents are successful and good representatives of Meharry Medical College."

Benefits

- **Real-time adjustments.** If the class does poorly on a quiz, issues can be immediately addressed by either modifying the teaching strategy or spending more time covering the subject matter in a review session. The goal is to ensure residents have a mastery of the subject matter before moving on to the next rotation.
- **Flexibility.** Administering the quizzes online means we can add or change the frequency (biweekly or monthly) as needed. Residents also can login and take the quiz anywhere they have an Internet connection.
- **Database of questions.** Because questions are entered into a database, program directors and chief residents are able to pull from a large pool of questions, making the process fast and efficient. The system randomly assigns the questions and answers for each resident, preserving the integrity of the quiz.

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Dr. Esuruoso, Associate
Director of Residency
Training at Meharry
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