Facilitating and recognising practice research by intern pharmacists

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LIFELONG LEARNING IN PHARMACY CONFERENCE
BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA
BACKGROUND

PHARMACY INTERNSHIP IN AUSTRALIA

• Provisional registration
• Period of supervised practice

NATIONAL COMPETENCY STANDARDS FRAMEWORK FOR PHARMACISTS IN AUSTRALIA 2016
BACKGROUND

MONASH UNIVERSITY INTERN FOUNDATION PROGRAM

• Runs parallel with and complements Monash University accredited Intern Training Program (ITP)
• Features bespoke Workplace Learning Plan, workshops and other tasks, practice-based research component.
OBJECTIVES

To describe how the Monash University foundation program supports intern pharmacists to participate in practice research.

PGP5021 Outcome: “At the completion of this unit students will be able to:
…Use evidence based methods to enhance knowledge of a disease, medication or research question”
METHODOLOGY

Project is compulsory foundation program assessment – research or case based.

But first…

RESEARCH SKILLS TRAINING

- Online research skills module
- Project topic submission for approval
- Project proposal submission
METHODOLOGY

Poster presentation evening
RESULTS

2016-2017

• 103 interns successfully completed a project
• Majority of projects research related
• Feedback – 2016, 2017 respectively:
  • Foundation program helped interns develop their research skills: 89%, 96% agreed or strongly agreed
  • Interns found project useful for enhancing their learning: 83%, 100% agreed or strongly agreed
  • Preceptors felt the project facilitated the interns’ learning: 100%, 91%
DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

FOUNDATION PROGRAM RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Fosters the skill of ‘Inquiry’

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- Well received
- Assisted interns to develop research skills for ongoing effective practice and improve patient outcomes