



Family Medicine Interest Group (FMIG) Program of Excellence Award Winners

Categorical Award, Excellence in Promoting the Scope and Diversity of Family Medicine

University of North Carolina School of Medicine at Chapel Hill

FMIG Operation

At UNC, our student body is on the Chapel Hill campus for the entirety of the 1st and 2nd years of the MD program before departing to 6 branch campuses for the clinical phase of the program. For that reason, our organization primarily includes students in their MS1 and MS2 years and our leadership consists of two co-presidents during their MS1 spring semester and MS2 fall semester. These two leaders (co-presidents) are responsible for all student-facing FMIG activities, including event planning and coordination, member recruitment, and group advertisement. We also maintain the relationship with our state Family Medicine Association (the NCAFP) and attend all student-facing NCAFP events, including the annual NCAFP conference and Family Medicine Day.

Goals

The UNC Family Medicine Interest Group provides exploration and enrichment activities for medical students to highlight the need for primary care and the scope of the specialty of Family Medicine. Additionally, we serve as the student liaisons between the medical school and the UNC Family Medicine residency program and faculty and hope to connect students to greater opportunities in mentorship, research, and clinical experience within our greater Family Medicine organization. For this leadership term in particular, we have primarily focused on providing our members and the greater UNC School of Medicine student body with the opportunity to learn about the breadth of the Family Medicine field. We hope our classmates will head to the clinical years with an understanding of all the wonderful opportunities they can pursue in Family Medicine

Faculty Advisor

We receive incredible support from our faculty advisor, **Victoria Boggiano**, and **Kayla Bonnell**, our Family Medicine medical school coordinator. They primarily assist with financial management, administrative coordination, and physician recruitment for events, and **Dr. Boggiano** has even graciously volunteered additional time to present at a couple of events this year. They have been so wonderful in helping to guide our ideas into structured, feasible programming for our members and we truly couldn't operate without them!

STRONG MEDICINE FOR AMERICA

Categorical programs

Reproductive Healthcare Series

In combination with the UNC chapter of Medical Students for Choice, we have hosted a 3-part Reproductive Healthcare series during the 2024 spring semester. Our primary goal was to help demonstrate to students how Family Medicine, in addition to more traditionally referenced fields like OBGYN, plays a big role in providing reproductive healthcare in all its forms. Our series started off with an event where we learned about the various contraception options, considerations, and procedures, culminating with hands-on training in Nexplanon and IUD insertion. The second event provided instruction on vasectomies with a similar hands-on training in the procedure, and our final event of the series was a discussion about the history of termination care in North Carolina and an opportunity to learn and practice the manual vacuum aspiration procedure. We had three FM faculty members who presented at the three sessions and were additionally assisted by three UNC FM residents. The FMIG co-presidents were responsible for formulating the series structure, planning the events with the presenters, and coordinating the access to the necessary materials with the MSFC leaders. Additionally, we advertised the event to our members and additional classmates. Our FMIG faculty advisors were instrumental in helping us find contacts to wonderful available presenters and helped coordinate many of the day-of responsibilities (set up, food, etc). Due to available procedure supplies, the workshops were more limited in number, but each session was full (roughly 12-15 attendees each time), and many attendees shared afterward that they hadn't known the extent of how Family Medicine could be involved in this aspect of patient care before the workshops! Though this was the first year the event was held, we felt like most steps of the process went very smoothly, though we did learn some improvements in the procedure training that could be implemented should a future leadership team hope to do this program again.

Advocacy in Family Medicine

As a kick-off to our summer 2024 faculty-led lecture series on the role Family Medicine physicians play in patient advocacy, FMIG organized an "Advocacy in Family Medicine" panel with two of our faculty members who have extensive experience in caring for historically underserved communities. Our two physicians brought knowledge of caring for patients who were formerly incarcerated, farmworkers, and rural communities, and shared their paths leading to caring for these populations. Additionally, they talked about the roles that we can play in advocating for underserved patients during our time in medical training and beyond. In this event, we hoped to demonstrate how Family Medicine is a wonderful specialty for increasing access to care, changing relationships of marginalized groups with the healthcare system, and effecting meaningful change in policy. The FMIG co-presidents formulated the structure of the panel, advertised to classmates, and moderated the panel during the event, while our faculty advisors were again crucial in helping us find contacts with the expertise we were hoping to highlight! Due to a hectic week schedule for our class, our turnout was a bit lower, but it seemed that the discussion about the work the physicians are a part of was very meaningful to the students who participated. After the lecture series this summer, we will be excited to reflect on what parts stood out as successful to us and the ways we could suggest changes for another leadership team should they want to do a similar event.

Harm Reduction: Managing Opioid Use Disorder

In combination with UNC's Addiction Medicine Interest Group, FMIG hosted an event on managing opioid use disorder in a Family Medicine setting. **Dr. Boggiano**, our faculty advisor, has had significant experience in caring for patients with this condition, and she gave a presentation on the use of suboxone in harm reduction and patient recovery. Additionally, a team member from UNC's Street Outreach Team, who previously struggled with opioid disorder himself, talked about OUD from a community-centered perspective and walked us through Narcan training for opioid overdose. Each participant was also able to take home a Narcan kit to be kept in an easily accessible place in the event of encountering someone who would benefit from the medication. We hoped to introduce our classmates to this more niche area of Family Medicine, one that is particularly important in caring for our state's underserved populations. FMIG leadership coordinated the planning of the event with AMIG, obtained necessary materials for the Narcan training, and advertised to classmates, and our wonderful faculty advisor volunteered her time to participate as a speaker! Though a Narcan training event had been held by FMIG in years past, we made some changes to add the portion about OUD management in Family Medicine. Additionally, this was the first year that the Narcan training was provided by someone who has personal experience with OUD, and we all discussed afterward how hearing about the opioid crisis from his perspective was very meaningful and different from what we typically receive in our med school curriculum.