

Block Leaders' Report and Action Plan Template
BLOCK 5
Class of 2020

1. Please address last year's Action Plan. Did you accomplish the goals that you listed? Why or why not?

We reviewed, revised and updated all the IQ cases, learning objectives and suggested readings. Will continue to edit cases on continual basis, as needed.

Removed two cases and added back two others. Zika virus case was removed due dislike by students from previous year and Primary Immunodeficiency cases was removed to scheduling conflict. We replaced these cases with one on Tuberculous and Malaria used from previous years. Need to re-edit these two cases.

Worked with Block 8 to have a Panel Discussion on Prevention as Care including HSS/IPE/Social Determinant/Access to Care, which was well received.

Despite these changes the feedback on IQ cases was similar to previous years, where students too often perceived the cases as not being integrated with lectures, too much memorization and either not enough breadth or too

2. Please comment on 2-4 aspects of the Block that went particularly well. Do you have plans to expand/increase/improve these aspects of the Block?

Areas of strength include Hematology/Oncology and Pathology.

We tried to better integrate and coordinate the content of the block of content throughout the block with an overarching immunologic theme. We plan to stress the basic understandings and concepts of immunology again.

Students liked the infectious disease summary tables and charts but commented that they could be used earlier. We will try to implement these earlier this year.

Students asked about TBLs instead of all MSGs, but other comments thought MSGs were great as is.

From last year, we continued in developing a conceptual framework for clinical reasoning in microbiology and infectious disease, beginning where clinical presentations were linked to host susceptibilities and exposures from which students were to deduce likely microbiology and construct empiric antibiotic therapy.

3. Please comment on aspects of the Block that received decreased ratings when compared to previous years. What are possible explanations? How will you address these?

Decreased ratings were in Immunology, Dermatology, Rheumatology, Bioethics, Anatomy and Infectious Disease. Students complained about many issues including lack of organization, too much memorization, not targeting towards Step 1, matching of IQ cases and lectures. Many comments were related to improve Dermatology content, perhaps more time is needed as only one week is devoted to this topic in Block 5.

IQ cases: comments on order of some cases, for example cases 1 and 2 should be reversed. Unfortunately, due to scheduling of lectures, cases had to be changed in order to align with lecture content. Other comments related to too narrow of a focus for some cases or too broad of a focus for other cases.

4. Please comment on any new curricular innovation(s) that you introduced into the Block this year. Did they work well? Will you continue them? (Note: this may overlap with #2 above).

Block 8 integration into Block 5, seemed to work well, see #1.

5. Are you planning any changes to your required resources?

Resources have been modified for all cases and new additions of textbooks added.

6. Please comment on observations of student attendance and student participation. Was it similar to the preceding year?

Attendance was about the same as prior years.

7. Please comment on the alignment between the weekly Block content and the MCQs/SEQs.

Students expressed concern on IQ cases and alignment to other block content
There was little student feedback on MCQs or SEQ, although some concerns were expressed on quality of answers. This is being addressed with help from Dr. Papp's office

8. What additional information or comments do you want to share about the Block?

Recommend lectures be taped for students to review, as we rely on lecture material to present much of our content due to a lack of appropriate reading sources.

Some review sessions were very poorly attended, only a few students but comments on reviews were either positive or negative, especially end-of-block reviews and comments.