

## Using Learning Communities to Teach Professionalism

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### Background

- Medical professionalism- our contract between doctors and society.
  - Being threatened in our health care system
  - Concerned about the erosion of professionalism in the profession and in trainees
  - Essential that we incorporate teaching medical professionalism
- Taught in many different ways in medical schools
  - Experiential/reflection, clinical contact with tutor feedback, ethics teaching, problem based learning, role play exercises, bedside teaching, educational portfolios, videotape analysis, significant event analysis, workshops, humanistic writing, and mentoring programs.
  - No guidelines on the most effective approaches

### Preclinical

- Orientation
- Doctors Round Table
  - Professionalism Principles
  - Cases for preclinical students

### Doctoring with CARE

- Reflection on examples of professionalism in clinical training
- Confronting professionalism lapses in our students

### Discussion

- Do learning communities (LC) facilitate teaching professionalism?
- Does reflection promote teaching professionalism?
- Does having a LC faculty mentor allow for more open discussion of professionalism issues?
- How can LC mentors confront their students on professionalism issues and maintain the relationship with them?
- What other methods have been successful (examples from your institutions)?

### **References**

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