

DID YOU KNOW:

- CiM is a four year course that is part of the Fundamentals of Patient Care.
- CiM provides specialty talks during years one and two to help students as they explore their career choices.
- CiM was developed by the AAMC and has great resources for both students and advisors.

Check out:
www.aamc.org/services/cim/

Interesting Facts

The National Mean for the USMLE Exams in 2010 are:

222 for Step 1
233 for Step 2

For questions or concerns about your advisees or your role as an advisor please contact:

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Advising in the Clinical Years

Advising is defined as informational and exploratory in nature, an advising relationship is about setting goals, evaluating obstacles, and providing guidance. One of the main roles for the advisor in the third and fourth year is to provide guidance for specialty decision making.

You are important! In the 2010 AAMC Graduation Questionnaire (GQ), 56.6 percent of U.S. medical school seniors completing the questionnaire reported that the advising and mentoring they received had either a strong or moderate influence on their specialty choice (4). Even more students (73.5%) reported that role models had either a strong or moderate influence on specialty choice. These factors were rated higher than income expect-

tations, level of educational debt, and numerous other factors commonly thought to strongly influence specialty choice. In fact, according to the GQ data, only



content of the specialty and fit with personality, interests, and skills rated higher than the influence of role models on specialty choice. Arguably, serving as an advisor or mentor positions you to be a role model and to greatly influence your students' specialty choice and career plans.

Effective advisors are empathetic, trustworthy, discreet, honest, non-judgmental, and available and possess good listening skills. In addition, good advisors are knowledgeable beyond specialty information or medicine in general; they're also knowledgeable about their school's curriculum, policies, and procedures. Keeping up with trends about issues such as the Match and competitiveness among specialties and using reliable data and information are crucial to providing good guidance. Advisors who embody these qualities and strive to maintain current expertise around specialty choice issues will find it easier to build rapport with students and develop meaningful advising relationships.

(excerpts taken from AAMC CiM website)

Resources for Advisors

We invite you to take full advantage of all the resources available to advisors.

Make sure to check out:

- AAMC CiM Advising Students:
www.aamc.org/services/cim/advisingstudents/

- The M3 Advising Checklist:
www.aamc.org/download/182644/data/m3_advising_checklist.pdf

- NRMP Reports—Charting Outcomes in the Match
www.nrmp.org/data/chartingoutcomes2011.pdf

- MUSC CiM Website:
www.musc.edu/com/cim/

Thank you for all you do to support our students!