A Student-Generated, Peer-Led Teaching Activity for Integrative Medicine in a **Family Medicine Accelerated Track**

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FMAT Program:

TTUHSC has implemented a 3-year accelerated medical school curriculum that culminates in the MD degree and prepares students for a 3-year family medicine residency. The FMAT1 course focuses on the top 24 diagnoses in primary care. It is organized across 8 systems-based weeks **Project Background & Purpose:** More than half of adults in the U.S. say they use some form of alternative medicine. However, the definition of terms such as Complementary and Alternative Medicine(CAM) and Integrative Medicine (IM) change often, as CAM/IM therapies move into the mainstream. Thus, helping learners stay abreast of CAM/IM therapies remains a part of lifelong learning. **Project Objectives:**

Cardiovascular Week

- Coenzyme 10 (CoQ10)
- Fish oil

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Results: |

Test

Matching

- Garlic Capsaisin
- **Dermatology Week**

Neuro-Psych Week

- Melatonin
- Mindful meditation
- Neurostimulation/ Cerena
- Butterbur/ Petadolex

OB/Gyn/ Urology Week



How confident would you feel explaining to a



- 1) Apply basic sciences and clinical content covered in the course to CAM and integrative therapies
- 2) Demonstrate clinical competencies that apply to the basic science and clinical content covered during FMAT systems-based weeks

- Pine bark extract
- Tea tree oil
- Mederma
- Manuka honey

Endocrine/GI Week

- Turmeric
- Acupuncture

Musculoskeletal Week

- Topical arnica
- Glucosamine Chondroitin



- All Respondents (22) 40.0% **Basic Scientist Faculty (5)** 40.8% Family Medicine Faculty (5) 49.6% FMAT Students (12) 35.3%

Lutein: Most Understood by

- Ginger root
- Saw palmetto **Respiratory Week**
- Acupuncture
- Ivy leaf
- Raw local honey
- eCigarettes



- Mechanism of action, if known Safety issues/ Interaction with medication or other therapies Issues related to sex- or gender-differences-- such as in effectiveness, therapeutic action, or product marketing Important notes for patient education about this therapy Key sources or literature
 - Cranberry Juice: Most Understood (100% for all) Calcium & Green Tea

Post-Test: Student-

Generated Questions

• FMAT Students (10)70.8%

• Faculty (6)

3) Demonstrate critical thinking and synthesis of The information.

Methods:

- FMAT students studied evidence related to the use of CAM/IM in primary care.
- Students and faculty completed pre- and post-tests of knowledge and attitude, including matching therapies to indications and CAM confidence.
- In their assigned week, students were responsible for researching and presenting about CAM/IM therapies. Each student gave a brief presentation for 2 therapies, including one nutritional supplement, noting indications, drug interactions, MOA, sex-differences, safety issues, etc.
- Students completed worksheets and



(100% FM vs 80%BS/33%FMAT)



All Respondents (16)	41.7%
Faculty (6)	47.0%
FMAT Students (10)	39.3%

	Pre-Test	Post-Test	
Focus on therapies covered in presentations			
Saw Palmetto			
• All	45%	67%	
BS Faculty	60%	43% (all faculty)	
FM Faculty	80%		
FMAT Students	20%	87.5%	

others



Tai Chi

67.4%



Discussion & Conclusions

In the Family Medicine Accelerated Track (FMAT), TTUHSC has developed a unique strategy to improve the primary care physician workforce. FMAT affords students a complete medical education in three years, increased faculty support, financial incentives, and earlier clinical experiences. This project offered a strong opportunity to: • Embed a self-directed learning activity into an ongoing course

- Address CAM/IM therapies, which are often not taught well in medical school
- Challenge students to integrate CAM with the week's content & diagnoses
- Use physician & scientist faculty expertise to guide





discussions such as therapy MOA, drug interaction, potential for mis-information, safety, & sex differences Engage students directly in teaching & evaluation Pilot a model that can be expanded to other topics and

courses