

UCLA OB/GYN Peer Advising Program

Lisette Collins BS*¹, Mikaela Koch BA*¹, Aparna Sridhar MD MPH¹

¹ David Geffen School of Medicine, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA

*Authors contributed equally

BACKGROUND

One of the core medical school clerkships, completed by medical students across the nation, OBGYN is consistently rated less favorably than other rotations with students describing passive learning and feeling de-valued and excluded from clinical activities^{1,2}. At UCLA, medical students now enter the clinical setting at an even earlier stage, as second years, potentially exacerbating traditional barriers to success and necessitating innovative strategies to support students. Studies have shown that peer mentorship is a valuable and underutilized resource for medical students and has been shown to increase student satisfaction with other clinical rotations^{3,4}.

OBJECTIVE

This study aimed to assess student satisfaction with the implementation of an OBGYN peer advising program among second year medical students (MS2) rotating on OBGYN at UCLA and partner sites.

METHODS

Participants: MS2s rotating on OBGYN across 6 clinical sites

Survey: 9-item Qualtrics survey assessing interaction with peer advisors and satisfaction with the program. Satisfaction was assessed on a Likert Scale (0-5)

Distribution: Following their four-week rotation, students were asked to complete the survey during their rotation debrief session and reminded via email.

This study received UCLA IRB exemption.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- Site- specific **PowerPoints**
- **GroupMe** chat with peer advisor and fellow students
- Weekly **check-ins**
- **How-to** pages

- OB/GYN/Family Planning **Badge buddies** (*coming for class of 2027*)

- OBGYN Clerkship **Pocketbook** (*coming for class 2027*)
- Clerkship director orientation **checklist** (*coming for class of 2027*)



RESULTS

Twenty-one medical students responded to the survey with representation across all 6 clinical sites. The majority said they contacted their peer advisor 2-3 times throughout the rotation and 76% stated their peer advisor responded within 12 hours. Students were overall satisfied with the level of support they received (3.95/5) and believed PAP would be a useful resource for other rotations (4.17/5). Feedback included establishing office hours and clear communication about the level of confidentiality offered.

RESULTS

Please rank your level of agreement with the following statements on a scale from 0-5:

Statement	Average
I feel comfortable speaking with my peer advisor about things I am struggling with on my OBGYN rotation	3.95
I found the initial PowerPoint from my peer advisor helpful	4.14
I found the GroupMe chat with my peer advisor helpful	3.71
Overall, I have been satisfied with the level of support I received through the PAP program	3.95
I believe PAP would be a useful resource and important contribution to other clerkships	4.05

CONCLUSION

The OBGYN peer advisor program is a valuable addition to clerkship students, providing them with resources and support as questions arise. Areas for growth include increasing the number of advisors and reinforcing the confidentiality of the program. Recruitment is ongoing, and will include rollout of new OBGYN specific badge buddies and clerkship pocketbook.

REFERENCES

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