The successful integration of many academic programs keeps the MEDiC Outreach Program running both at clinic and behind the scenes. Students from the School of Pharmacy, the School of Physical Therapy, the School of Nursing and the Physician Assistant Program combine with students from the UW School of Medicine and Public Health to offer patients a variety of skills and knowledge. Students from several of these disciplines offer their viewpoints on how their individual program benefits MEDiC’s patients as well as the student volunteers.

Pharmacy
By Melissa Natzke
The most significant influence pharmacy has had on MEDiC is that we bring a different perspective to the clinics. We are taught to interview patients and gather data right away in our first year. Interdisciplinary teams work so well at MEDiC because every member of the team approaches the problem differently. Having a mixture of health professional students is beneficial to the patients because each member of the team adds questions and concerns that the other members may not have thought of.

Drug costs are by far MEDiC's largest expense, so our goal this year was to streamline the process of acquiring and dispensing medications. Although this is still a work in progress, the additional knowledge that two new pharmacy students have brought to the MEDiC council has been indispensable. By streamlining our medications, we hope to improve the utilization of our resources in order to help even more patients in need.

Physician Assistant
By Emily Taylor
PA students volunteer at the MEDiC clinics to provide patient care to Madison’s underserved and to increase awareness of the PA profession. According to the US Department of Labor, raising awareness of the PA profession is crucial as employment of PAs is expected to grow much faster than average for all occupations through the year 2014. Physicians and institutions are expected to employ more PAs to provide primary care and to assist with medical and surgical procedures.

PAs provide a cost-effective approach to quality patient care. They work with physicians to perform patient histories, physical exams, order and interpret diagnostic tests, manage and treat illnesses, repair lacerations and assist in surgery, prescribe medications, and counsel and educate patients. Through MEDiC, PA students gain valuable experience in these skills while providing a unique perspective on patient care.

Physical Therapy
By Amanda Sharp
Having the opportunity to work with MEDiC and those whom the clinics serve is an integral component of professional and personal development that is highly regarded in the physical therapy program. As allied health professionals, we gain through MEDiC a sincere understanding and respect of the skills and expertise

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MEDiC data project is an electronic database of patient information which has been collected since January 2004. The data project tracks several categories of demographic and clinical information including ethnicity, language, reason for visit, prescriptions, and referrals. Despite the small size and limited existence of the data project, several interesting trends are already apparent.

Over the past calendar year, the total number of patients seen at MEDiC clinics grew by 20% from 939 in 2005 to 1131 in 2006. MEDiC continues to serve a diverse patient population as demonstrated in the pie chart below. The most significant demographic change from 2005 to 2006 was a 77% increase in total number of Latino patients seen at clinic. With 81% of patients uninsured and 68% unemployed, MEDiC is clearly addressing healthcare needs of Madison’s underserved.

### 2006 MEDiC patient ethnicity

1131 patients

- 33% Caucasian
- 40% African American
- 25% Latino
- 1% Asian
- 1% Native American
- 1% Other

### Top 5 Medication needs:

1. Ibuprofen
2. Albuterol
3. Acetaminophen
4. Ranitidine
5. Penicillin

### Top 5 Diagnoses:

1. Upper respiratory tract infection
2. Depression
3. Asthma
4. Hypertension
5. Bipolar disorder

### Top 5 Reasons for visit:

1. Cough
2. Prescription refill
3. Rash
4. Tooth pain
5. Back pain

Written by Eric Yanke
The beginning of April marked the start of the independent tenure of the 2007-2008 MEDiC council. Each spring the previous year’s Council passes on the control of MEDiC. Comprised of 40 health profession students from the physical therapy, physician assistant, medicine, and pharmacy, the MEDiC council works to maintain the operations of the MEDiC clinics. The 2007-2008 Council has the honor of following in the footsteps of an ambitious group of students. Under the leadership of the 2006-2007 Council, MEDiC increased its patient volume by 10% and expanded many referrals services. They forged strong partnerships with our generous physician volunteers and referring organizations.

The 2007-2008 Council hopes to carry on the level of excellence established by its predecessors. In its first 6 weeks of service, the new council has taken steps to provide expanded care to patients by exploring partnerships with Target and Wal-mart in order to utilize these companies reduced pharmaceutical costs. They have streamlined the delivery of supplies to the clinics by utilizing online databases and nightly delivery of medications. Other future projects include expanded fundraising efforts, increased education regarding referring options for patients, increasing cooperation between allied health professional schools, and reducing overall costs for MEDiC.

In the short time that the 2007-2008 MEDiC Council has served, the members have found the commitment of the physicians, residents, referring clinics, advisors, and donors staggering. These generous individuals and organizations provide tremendous motivation to forward the mission of MEDiC: to enhance education through service. The 2007-2008 Council looks forward to the challenges of the coming year.
Bucky’s Race for Rehab MEDiC Fundraiser

On Saturday, April 14, students from Phi Theta, a registered student organization at the UW School of Physical Therapy, sponsored and ran their annual fundraiser for the MEDiC Outreach Program, a 5K run/walk entitled “Bucky’s Race for Rehab.” The race began in front of the UW Natatorium and continued along the Lakeshore Path.

Traditionally one of MEDiC’s biggest fundraisers, two hundred people participated this year to raise $1000. Prizes given to the first place male and female finishers included Running Gait Analyses at UW Health Sports Medicine from Bryan Heiderscheit’s (PT, PhD) Runner’s Clinic.

Become a Volunteer at a MEDiC Clinic!

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