Development of a One-Stop Multidisciplinary SBIRT Resource Website

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BACKGROUND
Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) is an evidence-based delivery of early interventions for substance use. SBIRT can decrease frequency and severity of substance use, hospital visits plus health care costs, but physicians cite many barriers to SBIRT use, including insufficient time, training and access to education, intervention and referral resources.

OBJECTIVE
The SBIRT- South Texas Area Residency Training (S-START) Website aims to establish a recognized, comprehensive and readily accessible resource as a modality to address SBIRT practice barriers.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
The Project S-START Website users include faculty and resident physicians in the Pediatric and Family Medicine departments with broad departmental access targeted this year. Curricula content includes cultural competency, medical conditions related to substance use, screening, brief interventions, referral to treatment, pharmacotherapy, integrated care, electronic records, and administrative issues. Available links include a county-wide cross-referenced substance abuse resources directory and SBIRT-related national resources. To facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration, core curricula are shared among specialties via the Website. Each module includes specialty specific electronic resources, including PowerPoint presentations, online modules, a video library, pocket-cards, and recommended SBIRT resources.

PROGRAM EVALUATION OUTCOME
The S-START Website went live January 2009, serving as an SBIRT resource repository aiding initial curricula development, patient education, and access to community resources for referral to treatment. Upon S-START curriculum implementation, Spring 2009, specialty specific content modules for Pediatrics and Family Medicine were posted. Since January 2009, the site has had over 1230 hits.

CONCLUSIONS The S-START Website’s growth and evolution as a multidisciplinary resource tool for SBIRT training, clinical practice and community resources for S-START trainees is paralleling S-START implementation. This multidisciplinary resource repository broadly supports SBIRT goals through access to information, learning strategies and curricula; expansion of practitioner-community linkages, and support for provider comfort and implementation of SBIRT across diverse clinical care populations and settings.