Worksheet 2 Needs Assessment  See Module 2. Needs Assessment

Use this worksheet to determine if you need a curriculum. For simple projects or projects everyone agrees are needed, document just the internal need. For more complex projects, or if you need to make a strong case for a curriculum, show evidence from national professional organizations and from the literature.

1. For simple curriculum projects or projects everyone agrees are needed, check all internal evidence that applies:

   ___ It is not currently taught in my program.

   ___ The topic is not being taught adequately in my program (e.g., there are lectures but no practice, no consistent feedback, no clear demonstrations, it is not comprehensive, learners are not evaluated).

   ___ Scores show that learners perform poorly on this topic (e.g., RRC or LCME reports, board scores, shelf exam results).

   ___ Administrators or colleagues have reported that learners need this topic.

   ___ Learners or graduates have reported needing this topic.

2. If you need to make a stronger case add external evidence:
   A. Document the external need for your curriculum from at least one national professional organization such as these:

      AAMC  Association of American Medical Colleges
      SGIM  Society of General Internal Medicine
      STFM  Society of Teachers of Family Medicine
      AAFP  American Academy of Family Physicians
      APA   American Pediatric Association
      ACGME Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education
      LCME  Liaison Committee on Medical Education
      IOM   Institute of Medicine

   B. Document evidence from the literature that:

      ___ shows that physicians don’t currently do this due to a lack of knowledge or skill.

      ___ other institutions have implemented similar curricula, and similar methods for testing and teaching will be suitable for your program.

      ___ experts recommend using a particular method or methods to teach the knowledge and skills in which you want your learners to be competent.
3. Summarize what you have found and add it to your curriculum plan. See Dr. Freilich’s curriculum document as an example.