

Introduction to the GPC Curriculum

The materials in this notebook are designed to serve as a bridge between genetics and primary care. They are not intended as a freestanding curriculum: each module cites web-sites for additional background information and articles from the medical literature, including relevant consensus and policy statements where applicable. The modules provide a series of teaching cases, developed aim to be representative of patients seen in primary care, while also allowing for the demonstration of genetics issues and principles.

The cases are intended to serve as a model for engaging medical students' and residents' interests in genetics topics. For each case, questions are noted and a brief discussion is provided. The additional web sites and other references listed provide the basis for more in-depth exploration of each topic.

The eight topics chosen for development of teaching cases are taken from core areas of primary care practice. In the following section – “**How to Use This Curriculum**” – we outline the framework we used in developing these teaching materials, and how we expect them to be used. These teaching modules have been used in pilot projects to introduce genetics into the primary care teaching curriculum, under the leadership of 20 multidisciplinary teaching teams participating in the GPC project. They have also been reviewed by experts in primary care and genetics for relevance and accuracy. They represent part of an on-going project to develop tools for primary care faculty to assist them in introducing genetics topics into the primary care curriculum. Additional materials will be available in fall 2002, together with updated versions of these modules.

We welcome your comments and suggestions.

GPC Executive Committee
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