Defining Assessment v Evaluation in Medical Education

- *Assessment* pertains to *individual learners*, whereas *evaluation* involves *educational programs*

Kirkpatrick Model of Program Evaluation

-The most commonly used and cited program evaluation framework in medical education

![Kirkpatrick Model Diagram]

Four Step Evaluation Cycle

1. Planning/Preparation to Implement Action
2. Teaching or Learning Activity
3. Collection and Measurement of Evaluation Data on Activity
4. Reflection and Analysis
Important Steps in Program Evaluation

1. Clearly define the purpose of the evaluation
2. Identify the theories grounding the evaluation
3. Determine the outcomes to be measured and ensure they align with the overall purpose of the evaluation
4. Determine how the defined outcomes will be measured (What instruments and methods will you use?)
5. Conduct the evaluation
6. Prepare, summarize and disseminate evaluation results to relevant stakeholders
7. Implement programmatic changes based upon evaluation results

Program Evaluation Hacks

- Plan your evaluation in parallel with planning of your educational session/program
- Garner support and input from ALL relevant stakeholders
- Be clear and specific about the outcomes to be evaluated
- Use the most rigorous method pertinent/available for your evaluation
- Be sure to use evaluation results for improvement

Selected References


