The Citizen Scientist Curriculum: A New Approach to Training Community Stakeholders Working in Clinical Research

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Background
- Citizen Scientists (CS) are community stakeholders who bridge gaps between researchers and the community.
  - Offer valuable perspective on things like proposal review, implementation, and recruitment.
- Many community stakeholders lack basic knowledge about clinical research.
  - This creates communication barriers and can impact feedback given by CS.
- Goal: Create a curriculum on the basics of clinical research to train our CS (and others).
  - An understanding of clinical research leads to well-reasoned, more actionable feedback.
- Innovation: This approach is not typically taken for clinical research, and CS helped create content.
  - Funding under $100,000; relied on university resources

Key Points
- Existing members scored lower than expected.
  - Refresher training can be helpful to community stakeholders.
- New members scored better than existing members on cultural competency and big data, suggesting an existing familiarity with the topics.
  - Designing for a range of experience and awareness is crucial.
- Participants were pleased: “outstanding introductory series on what it means to be a CS.”

By the Numbers
- 7 topical modules
- 60% fail threshold for revision of any assessment question
- 75% of participants say it was “easy to understand” videos
- 15-80: age range of participants

Web site: bitly.com/cscurriculum
Questions? jbrishke@ufl.edu

Methods

Analysis
- Interviews
- CS preferred video-based lessons: YouTube

Design
- Learning objectives
  - 7 modules: 15 didactic lessons, 15 other (case studies, etc.)

Development
- Video studio/green screen, slide editing
- Captivate, Word Press

Implementation
- Formative Evaluations at group meeting
  - Revision if 60% wrong: 1 entire revision

Evaluation
- Pilot test in Canvas; 2 groups
- July 2017- January 2018