

Science in the bachelor of medicine: boosting academic skills in future medical doctors



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What was the problem?

Medical curriculum

The medical curriculum is a densely packed programme to train our students to become medical professionals in keeping with the national NFU framework 'Raamplan Artsopleiding 2020'.

Academic skills

Students feel well-prepared for their future job as medical doctor and well-trained in their clinical skills. Nonetheless, they indicate a wish for more experience in reading and interpreting medical scientific literature to strengthen their academic skills.

This was our solution

More 'science' in medicine

We proposed course coordinators in the bachelor programme to incorporate more 'science' in their courses by:

> *creating a dedicated academic skills assignment in the study group assignments*

> *stimulating the use/providing scientific literature needed to solve study groups assignments*

> *organising a dedicated academic skills lecture in which medical professionals as role model stress the importance of science in medical practice*



What were the results?

Building and building

We first started to promote the idea to incorporate 'science' in the bachelor courses in November 2020. By that time students were primarily exposed to scientific literature in courses that are part of the academic core (indicated in purple).

As of now (June 2022) many courses have introduced more 'science' by incorporating scientific literature, organising an academic skills lecture or by introducing a dedicated academic skills assignment.

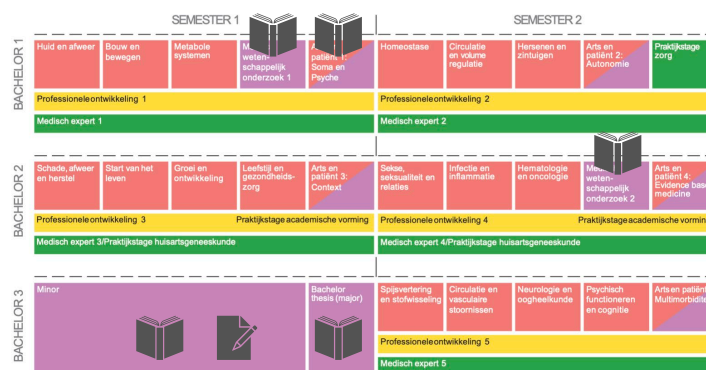
What are your lessons learnt?

> Communicate the importance of your ideas to all involved stakeholders via different channels

> Talk to students and student organisations and let them think along with you. Together we make our curriculum better!

> Stay connected.

Bachelor programme *November 2020*



Bachelor programme *June 2022*

