***Educational studies*** *are usually involved with trying to determine the effectiveness of a particular type of instruction, or trying to assess the educational needs or backgrounds of students. The IRB will use this protocol to make their determination. Please reference sections in this document to complete the application.*

**Title**

(Descriptive title; keep it tight, no 100 word titles)

**Version Date**

(e.g., the date the protocol was created)

**Significance/Background:** Using the literature, establish any previous work related to your research question. This section should describe the gaping hole in the literature and how your specific aims will attempt to address it. **Make sure to cite your references in this section!**

***Example:***

*About 50% of counties in the US are without a single Obstetrician.1 Those counties’ obstetrical needs are traditionally served by family physicians. Yet, there has been a decline in the number of family physicians providing maternity care in the last 40 years. As of 2010 only 10% of family physicians provided maternity care compared to 46% in 1978.1 This decline is attributed to multiple factors.2,3 One factor is inadequate obstetric training provided in Family Medicine Residency training years. Improving obstetric teaching and training during residency may play a role in increasing comfort level among family medicine residents and encourage them to provide maternity care after graduation.*

*In order to provide more continuity in care, as well as to increase the comfort level with providing obstetrical care, the GMDQ Family Medicine Residency program will implement a new model for teaching these important skills to residents. The curriculum will consist of six hours of prenatal care lectures during the first year of residency (introduced in the Fall), followed by a weekly obstetric clinic designated for Thursday afternoons to provide prenatal care to all resident patients. Oversight for this clinic will be provided by three residents (2nd and 3rd year training) and two faculty physicians with advanced obstetric skills. The resident educational experience will also include the management of labor and delivery under close supervision by the same two faculty physicians.*

*The aim of this study is to evaluate whether this new model will lead to increased knowledge with regard to obstetric care.*

**Objective(s):** Identify the specific aim(s) for your study.

***Example:***

*To determine if an educational initiative improves resident exam scores on a validated obstetrics test.*

***Setting/Resources for the Study:*** Describe where the research will take place. This includes both the setting for the research, as well as the location of any of the patient records to be obtained. You will also need to describe the capability of the investigators to perform the research, as well as the timeframe for the study.

***Example:*** *The GMDQ Family Medicine residency will be the setting for this research. The exam scores for residents will be obtained from GMDQ educational records. The investigators have all successfully completed the CITI program. The timeframe set for this study is one year.*

***Primary Outcome Variable(s):***Describe any outcome variables for the study.

***Example:*** *Exam scores pre-post educational initiative*

***Study Design:*** Describe the study design.

***Example:*** *Prospective, educational study*

***Study Subjects:*** Describe where you will obtain your subjects, over what time period and the specific inclusion and exclusion criteria used.

***Example:*** *All current GMDQ Family medicine residents will be eligible for inclusion in this study.*

***Study Procedures:*** This section basically describes methods for obtaining your data and descriptions/definitions of your variables.

***Example:***

*Pre-initiative data collection: pre-test will be administered and exam scores for residents will be obtained from GMDQ educational records for analysis*

*Implementation of educational initiative: the new educational training will begin in the early Fall of the current academic year.*

*Post-initiative data collection: post-test will be administered and exam scores for residents will be obtained from GMDQ educational records for analysis*

***Statistical Plan* *(please don’t struggle with this section, staff are available to help write this up)***

***Sample Size Determination:*** Describe the statistical methods for determining the sample size for the study (reason for choice of sample size).

***Example:*** *There are 20 current residents who meet the inclusion criteria for the study. The investigators would like to include all residents who meet the criteria in order to provide an accurate assessment of the effect of the OB educational intervention.*

***Statistical Methods:*** Use this section to provide a thorough description of the statistical tests that will be used in the analysis of your data.

***Example:*** *Summary statistics will be calculated. Quantitative data will be expressed as the mean+SEM and nominal data will be expressed as a percentage. The exam scores will be compared using the paired t-test.*

***References:*** Use this section to provide all of the references used throughout your study. Pick a format from your favorite journal and use it consistently.

***Example:***

1. Barr, W. B. (2010). Why pregnancy care should be an essential part of family medicine training. Family Medicine, 37(5), 364–6. Retrieved from http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/15883904

2. Chen, F. M., Huntington, J., Kim, S., Phillips, W. R., & Stevens, N. G. (2006). Prepared but not practicing: declining pregnancy care among recent family medicine residency graduates. Family Medicine, 38(6), 423–6. Retrieved from http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/16741841

3. Cohen, D., & Coco, A. (n.d.). Declining trends in the provision of prenatal care visits by family physicians. Annals of Family Medicine, 7(2), 128–33. doi:10.1370/afm.916