

Abstract: 2020 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Showcase

Improving care for young athletes through hospital partnerships

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The section of adolescent and sports medicine at Texas Children's has made it a priority to address the issue of health inequality in our surrounding communities in unique ways. One specific example is through the sports medicine partnership with Aldine school district, which has over sixty six thousand students of predominately minority and low socioeconomic background. Through this distinctive partnership, outreach athletic trainers and medical providers perform injury clinics, sideline coverage and educational programs at the middle schools and high schools in the district. Given many young patients do not have the transportation means to be evaluated in clinic during school hours the injury clinics provide both access and continuity of care for injured athletes. Having access to sports medicine specialists with diverse backgrounds has benefited the middle school population by providing the highest quality clinical care. In addition, several schools were provided AEDs through a partnership with cardiology that would not be available without the sports medicine partnership. This partnership has also improved the districts emergency action plan and concussion protocols assisting with issues of returning to school and sports. Another example is through the Baylor Teen Health Clinic, a school based clinic which provides preventative medical care to an under-served and mostly uninsured adolescent population in the Houston area. Individuals are provided a wide array of services from reproductive health, social services to sports physicals. These are just a few examples the section has contributed to addressing the issue of diversity, equity and inclusion.