

# Weekly Mindfulness and Reflection Practice in UMass's Internal Medicine Residency

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# Background

- High rates of burnout among medical residents
  - reported resident burnout rate

55-76%1



- Interventions to combat burnout not well studied
- Some studies have looked at individual interventions (yoga, mindfulness, reflection) and have suggested proof of concept<sup>2</sup>
- Lack of studies with group/community interventions

#### Intervention

- Weekly 5 minute reflection practice
- Prompts designed to foster reflection, mindfulness, community
  - Example prompts:
    - One thing you've done well
    - How you advocate for patients
    - What gives you energy at work
    - Fun outside of work
    - Growth over the last year

# Project Objectives and Goals

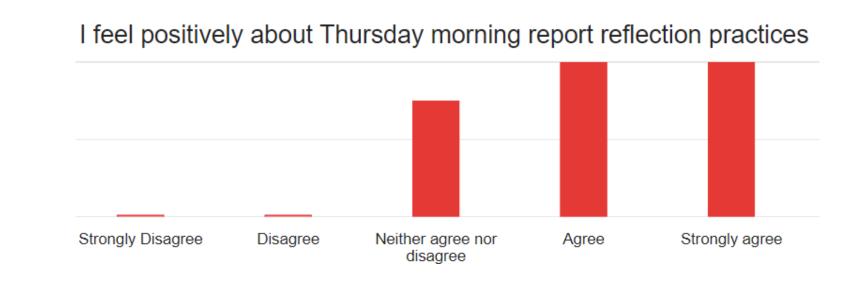
- Reduce Resident Burnout
- Build community among IM residents during pandemic
- Foster wellness in IM program
- Proof of concept for group interventions for burnout

## Methods

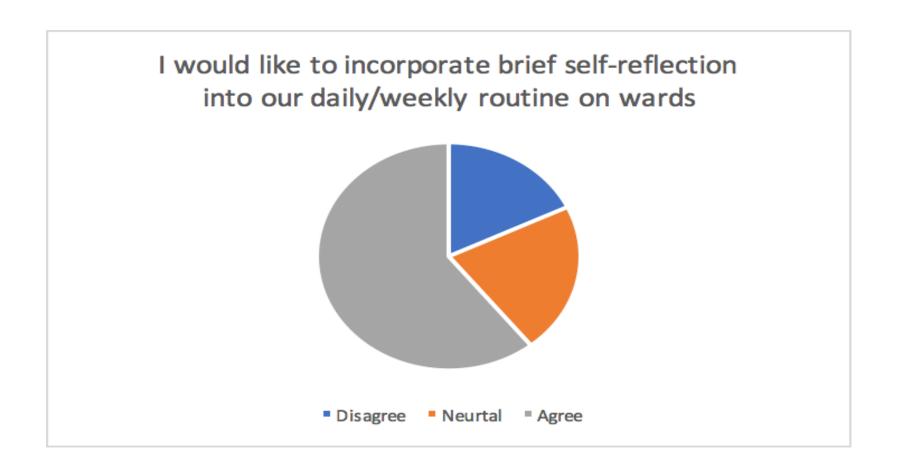
- 5 minute sessions during morning report conference weekly
- 4 months of weekly reflection practice
- Survey administered to IM residency after 4 months (Likert-scaled responses)

### Results and Outcomes

- Participation: 90-100 IM residents
- 42 responses
- 0% of responders had negative feelings/attitudes
- 80% wanted to continue intervention once weekly, 20% wanted more frequent



# Survey Responses



- They are meaningful and rare. We often forget to talk about non-work things with work friends.
- Great start of the day, hearing about people's perspectives.
- Great opportunity to connect, build community, feels therapeutic.
- We got to share positive experiences which help to create positive vibes for the rest of the day/week.
- One week I was very stressed and I enjoyed using this time to think about something other than work or medicine connect with my fellow residents.

#### Future directions

- Mindful Rounding Initiative
- Pet Therapy
- Residency sponsored outings (baseball games, bowling, arcade etc)

#### References

- Rodrigues H, Cobucci R, Oliveira A, Cabral JV, Medeiros L, Gurgel K, Souza T, Gonçalves AK. Burnout syndrome among medical residents: A systematic review and meta-analysis. PLoS One. 2018 Nov 12;13(11)
- 2. Nowrouzi B, Lightfoot N, Larivière M, Carter L, Rukholm E, Schinke R, Belanger-Gardner D. Occupational Stress Management and Burnout Interventions in Nursing and Their Implications for Healthy Work Environments: A Literature Review. Workplace Health Saf. 2015 Jul;63(2)