

Project Title: Development of virtual patient cases to enhance student understanding of the impact of social determinants of health in British Columbia

Project Summary *(150 words maximum)*

This project uses a web-based interactive simulated learning environment to teach health profession students about the social determinants of health. Faculty and health profession students will develop six virtual patient cases that will:

- Present learners with opportunities to better understand the health disparities among vulnerable populations in British Columbia from social, cultural, and geographical contexts;
- Challenge the learner to address the social determinants of health in planning interventions such as an interview, physical examination, investigation, or treatment;
- Allow students to explore their role as patient advocate, learn how to reduce or eliminate health disparities, and learn how to improve health outcomes for vulnerable populations across British Columbia; and
- Address barriers to accessing appropriate health related services.

The content and design of the virtual cases will be flexible to allow easy integration into all health professional education at UBC as a mandatory part of the curricula.