By integrating senior medical students during psychiatry rotation into a community mental health training center one afternoon a week, senior medical students reported that they were able to:

1. identify how intrapersonal and interpersonal processes impact patients’ health outcomes,
2. recognize how their own personal history can influence connecting with patients, and
3. develop strategies to enhance patient care and more efficient health outcomes.

INTRODUCTION
Recent developments in medical education have placed a greater emphasis on the integrating behavioral health with primary care visits. The question of how to integrate applied training in enhancing behavioral health for senior medical students remains challenging.

OBJECTIVES FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS
1. Know the current research and understand importance of behavioral health in primary care.
2. Formulate ideas on how to collaborate and coordinate patient care with behavioral health specialists.
3. Identify how the effects of stress, patient’s environment, and close relationships influence patients’ health and health behaviors.
4. Apply knowledge of behavioral health and primary care through en vivo training opportunities.

APPROACH
Through this innovative approach, medical students learn this information through three educational modalities:

1. SEMINARS ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
2. JOURNAL ARTICLE CLUBS
3. OBSERVING LIVE PSYCHOThERAPY CASES
4. VIDEO RECORDED SESSIONS
5. APPLYING PSYCHOThERAPY CASES TO HOW THEY WOULD TREAT THE PATIENT IF THEY KNEW THIS INFORMATION

OTHER FINDINGS
Follow-up responses of medical students indicate that getting in vivo feedback on conceptualizing cases with greater attention to the behavioral health needs of the patients enable them to be better equipped for their current and future roles in working with patients and their families.