Project Title: Enhancing PBL with Virtual Patient Technology

Project Summary *(150 words maximum)*

The goal of this project is to significantly enhance the engagement and educational power of problem-based learning (PBL) in the medical curriculum, using virtual patient (VP) technology. Funding is requested to transform two PBL paper-based patient scenarios from the Year 2 MD program into VP-PBL cases, thereby humanizing and contextualizing the patients using video and photographs, and creating branched decision-points leading to different outcomes. Focus of the learning in PBL will shift from problem-solving to patient care. As students learn through the cases, and make decisions based on their new knowledge, they will see the impact of their learning and decisions on patients. At this early stage we will evaluate impact of VP-PBL learning, in terms of engagement and course assessment outcomes. If the VP-PBL cases are effective, a larger project of VP-PBL transformation will be undertaken.