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Improving first episode psychosis resident education: A pilot 4th year psychosis concentration

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Caring for patients with first episode psychosis requires a unique skillset beyond which can be acquired on a general psychosis rotation. For most psychiatry residents, exposure to patients with first episode psychosis is limited, both in the number of patients seen over the course of training and in the amount of time spent caring for an individual patient. It is proposed that the 4th post-graduate year in psychiatry residency allows for an in-depth exposure to early psychosis work with an opportunity to serve patients longitudinally for up to 12 months. A pilot 4th year psychosis concentration was designed for residents interested in a future career dedicated to serving this patient population. A successful completion of the pilot has laid the groundwork for the future development of a first episode psychosis residency training curriculum. Future efforts should be made to incorporate a first episode psychosis curriculum in earlier stages of training to expose more residents to this important line of work.

