Supplemental Digital Appendix 1

Focus Group Guide, From a Study of Faculty Support for Self-Directed Learning (SDL) During Internal Medicine Residency, Mayo Clinic, 2014–2015

Introduction:

I want to welcome you all and thank you for participating in this focus group. My name is ______, and I have been asked to moderate this focus group. The study investigators and internal medicine residency program are interested in exploring how residents utilize self-directed learning during their residency training.

I will be recording the focus group for future analysis. The recording will be transcribed, and your information will be de-identified. All of the recordings will be protected by the research team, and all transcriptions will be de-identified for the analysis, in order to protect your anonymity. Your participation and responses will in no way affect your standing within the residency program.

Your participation in these focus groups is completely voluntary and you may walk away from the table here at any time. By remaining at this table, you are giving your consent to participate in this study.

If you have any questions about this research study you can contact the principal investigator at 6-8373 or sawatsky.adam@mayo.edu. If you have any concerns, complaints, or general questions about research or your rights as a participant, please contact the Mayo Institutional Review Board (IRB) to speak to someone independent of the research team at 507-266-4000 or toll free at 866-273-4681.

Do you have any questions for me about the study before we get started?

[Turn on audio recorder]

1) Tell us your name, where you went to medical school, and what comes to mind when you think about self-directed learning?
2) What motivates you to do self-directed learning?
   [Prompt] Can you give an example?
   [Prompt] What are the main resources you use for self-directed learning?
3) How do you know that you learned something using self-directed learning?
   [Prompt] How do you track your learning?
4) What are some common missed opportunities for self-directed learning, where it should have occurred but didn’t? What was the cause for those missed opportunities?
   [Prompt] What are the main barriers to self-directed learning?
Supplemental digital content for Sawatsky AP, Ratelle JT, Bonnes SL, Egginton JS, Beckman TJ. Faculty support for self-directed learning in internal medicine residency: A qualitative study using grounded theory. Acad Med.

[Prompt] If patient care is a barrier, probe about how they balance patient care as the trigger for SDL and a barrier for SDL

5) **How do faculty members support your self-directed learning?**

[Prompt] What are some ways faculty members might not be helpful in your self-directed learning?

[Prompt] Examples?

6) What, if any, help would you like to have from the residency program with help to support self-directed learning at a program level?

[ Prompt] What kinds of topics would be best suited for self-directed learning?

[ Prompt] When would be the best time to incorporate teaching on self-directed learning into the residency curriculum?

7) If you had a chance to give advice to the program director on this topic, what advice would you give? Of all the things we discussed, what is the most important to you?

8) Anything else you would like to add?