

TalEval Grading Method

From the book: The Expert TalEvalarian

TalEval: In one third of DH Schools

- Successful for 21 years
- Provides an accurate assessment of the progression of skill development in each student and their entire class
- It assesses faculty in their grading methods as well as students in their learning
- The statistical analysis is protected to prevent copyright infringement

Pareto Analysis

The students get the Median Performance Level (MPL) of points when they arrive to clinic.

80 Points (Beta test of three years of DH Students)

How do you define a median?

The median is the middle number

> in a sorted list of numbers

> more descriptive of that data set than mean/average.

The median is used as opposed to the mean/average when there are outliers in the sequence that might skew the average of the values.

You can scale the grades by increasing or decreasing the MPL

80 Points Upon Arriving to Clinic

Now we have a 20 point range to 100 (**Pareto Analysis**)

Points are gained by patient treatment

Points are gained by preset Extra Credit

Points are lost by making errors:

Critical Competency Errors take points off the top of the TalEval grade but only to the student who makes them

Statistical Competency Errors apply to the weights of items by the frequency of occurrence over the grading period

Developing Skills: When the entire class makes errors in a category. These errors weigh less

Mastered Skills: When no student makes errors in a category except one or two who may need remediation. These errors weigh less, except for those few who have yet to master the skill

Points Gained From Patient Treatment are Offset by Points Lost from Errors: **Critical Errors** as well as **Competency Errors**

Students with the highest patient points usually have the highest grades.

This gives students the incentive to treat patients, and mostly more difficult patients as they give the highest points

Critical Errors

- Set-up on the database you purchased
- Show up in **RED** in the grade form
- Based on:
 - Patient Safety
 - Ethics/Professionalism
 - Legal issues

You may add critical errors, but too many would fail out every student

Extra Credit in TalEval

- Decided by the faculty members at a meeting of each school
 - Not arbitrarily awarded by one faculty member
 - Documented in the Clinic Course Syllabus
- Not for treating difficult patients or patient management issues which are part of common practice
 - Not because the student had a bad day

Extra Credit in TalEval Grade

Semester or Term	Procedure	Extra Credit Points
Any	Finishing Requirements by Midterm	2
First Semester	Completing Easy Patient in one 4 <u>hr</u> clinic session	1

Second Year Extra Credit Points

Calc Skill Level	<u>Perio</u> Skill Level of Debridement	Number of (3-4 <u>hr</u>) Appointments to Complete Pt	Extra Credit Points
II	II	1	1
II	III	3	2
III	II	3	2
III	III	4	3
IV	II	4	3
IV	III-IV	5	4

Extra Credit in TalEval for:
“Making Learning A Top Priority”
Patients in Chair when scheduled as an “Operator”

Clinic Sessions (3-4 hours) Per Semester	Extra Credit Points
No Clinic Sessions Without a Patient or Assignment as CA, Screener, <u>Radiol Lab</u>	4
Only one <u>3-4 hour</u> session without a patient	3
Only two (3-4) hour sessions without a patient	2

Understanding Point Values

Clinical experience must get more demanding each semester



TalEval's built in decrease in the number of patient points every grading period – automates this process.

As student skills progress - less points awarded

Simultaneously, patients assigned are more difficult if a good screening policy is in place

Point values are for the level of difficulty of the debridement

Clinic I A Grading Period (Maximum of 7 Weeks)

Calculus Skill Level	Points Per Patient	Periodontal Skill Level	Points Per Patient
0	.25	0	.0
I	1.00	I	.10
II	2.00	II	.50
III	2.25	III	.75
IV	NA	IV	NA

Clinic I B Grading Period (Maximum of 7 Weeks)

Calculus Skill Level	Points Per Patient	Periodontal Skill Level	Points Per Patient
0	.15	0	0
I	.75	I	.05
II	1.50	II	.25
III	2.00	III	.50
IV	2.50	IV	NA

Clinic II A Grading Period (Maximum of 7 Weeks)

Calculus Skill Level	Points Per Patient	Periodontal Skill Level	Points Per Patient
0	.10	0	0
I	.25	I	0
II	.75	II	.20
III	1.25	III	.45
IV	1.75	IV	.50

Clinic II B Grading Period (Maximum of 7 Weeks)

Calculus Skill Level	Points Per Patient	Periodontal Skill Level	Points Per Patient
0	.05	0	0
I	.15	I	0
II	.50	II	.15
III	1.00	III	.40
IV	1.50	IV	.45

Clinic III A Grading Period (Maximum of 7 Weeks)

Calculus Skill Level	Points Per Appointment	Periodontal Skill Level	Points Per Appointment
0	.05	0	0
I	.10	I	0
II	.50	II	.10
III	1.00	III	.35
IV	1.50	IV	.40

Clinic III B Grading Period (Maximum of 7 Weeks)

Calculus Skill Level	Points Per Appointment	Periodontal Skill Level	Points Per Appointment
0	.05	0	0
I	.05	I	0
II	.50	II	.05
III	1.00	III	.30
IV	1.50	IV	.35

Summer Clinic Between 1st & 2nd Year

Calculus Skill Level	Points Per Patient	Periodontal Skill Level	Points Per Patient
0	.15	0	0
I	.75	I	.05
II	1.50	II	.25
III	2.00	III	.50
IV	2.50	IV	NA

Perio Clinic Summer or Fall of 2nd Year

Calculus Skill Level	Points Per Patient	Periodontal Skill Level	Points Per Patient
0	.05	0	0
I	.15	I	0
II	.50	II	.15
III	1.00	III	.40
IV	1.50	IV	.45

Not a Good Idea to Change Point Values



Extensive research went into developing the Point Values for Debridement Skill Levels



Going in and guessing (and it would be guessing) at how to change them could be a very big mistake

