

Facilitators and barriers to success as an international medical graduate in a Canadian residency program

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STUDY OBJECTIVES

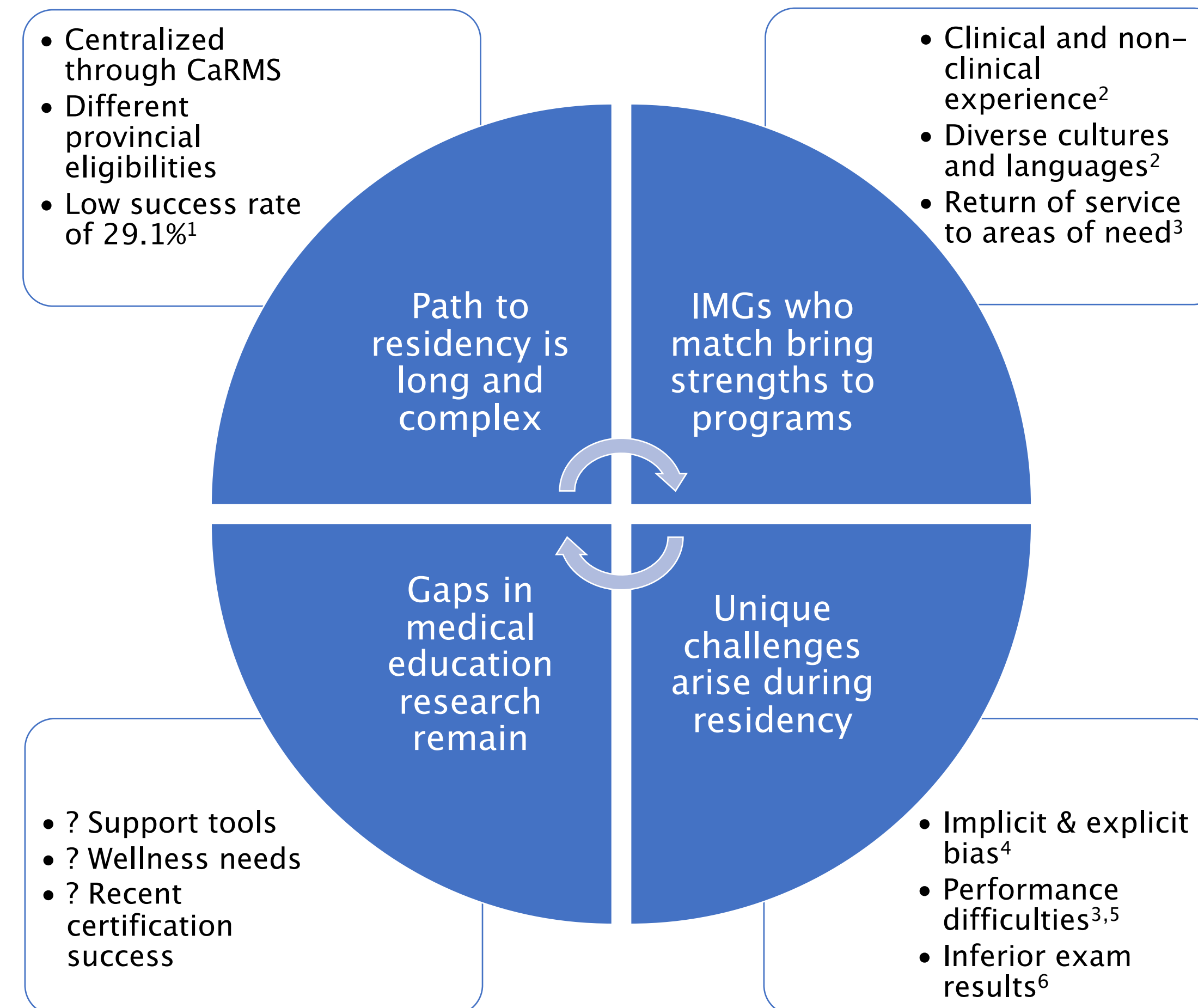
PRIMARY OBJECTIVE

To explore facilitators and barriers to success of International Medical Graduates (IMGs) completing postgraduate medical education in an Internal Medicine residency program in Alberta, Canada.

SECONDARY OBJECTIVES:

1. Explore whether Immigrant-IMGs (I-IMGs) and Canadian born-IMGs (C-IMGs) experience unique facilitators and barriers to success during residency training.
2. Explore the construct of wellbeing in IMGs.
3. Explore if there are opportunities for quality improvement in postgraduate medical education policies to promote success and wellbeing of IMGs in training.

THEMES FROM THE LITERATURE



PLANNED METHODS & ANALYSIS

Sequential explanatory mixed methods study

IMGs who entered Internal Medicine at UoA or UoC via Alberta IMG Program between 2018 & 2022 (N=~50).

Online questionnaire & semi-structured qualitative interviews.

Personally invited to participate through University email. Study also advertised in residency program newsletter.

Thematic analysis of qualitative data as described by Braun and Clark⁷.

Financial support provided through research grants from Residents Education Scholars Program at UoC & Professional Association of Resident Physicians of Alberta

SIGNIFICANCE

We recognize the value IMGs bring to Canadian residency programs and wider healthcare system. Our results will help:

1. Shape postgraduate medical education of IMGs to narrow gaps in performance and examination success.
2. Inform support mechanisms to ensure IMGs training and wellness needs are met.
3. Residency programs across Canada, where IMGs make up 15% of trainees.

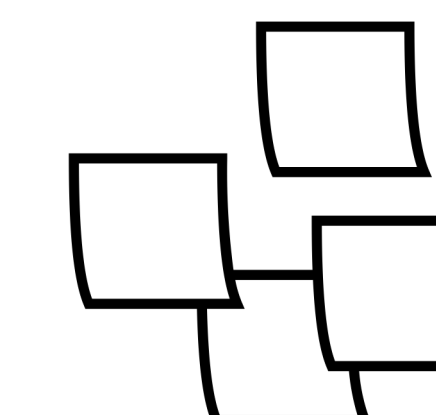
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CURRENT STATUS & NEXT STEPS

✓Ethics approved.

✓Recruitment at UoA completed and soon to be at UoC.



Boost interview participation (4/12 so far).

Synthesize data from questionnaires.

Apply thematic analysis to qualitative data.

Publish results and explore opportunities to improve postgraduate medical education of IMGs.