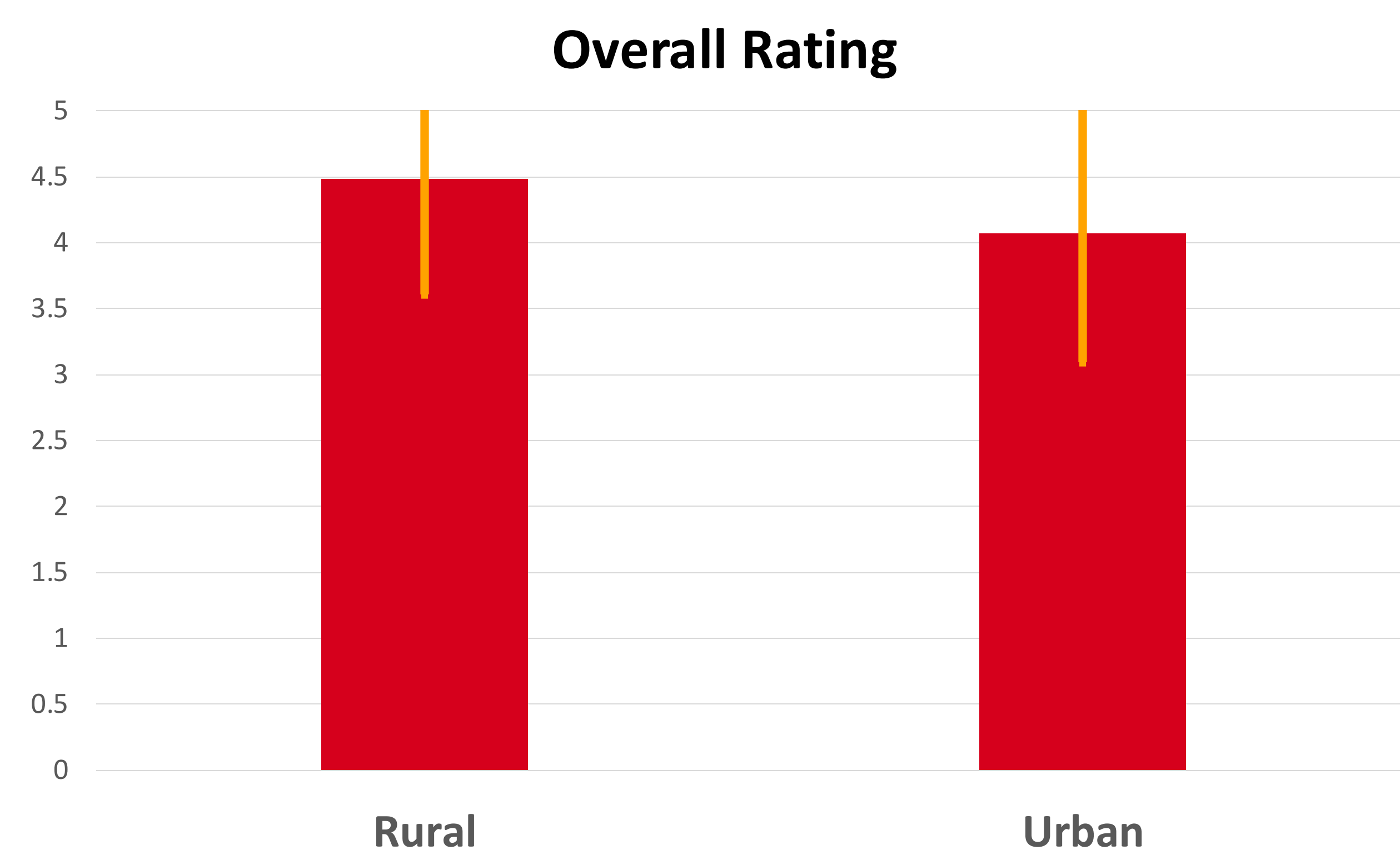


Progress In Action – Our Commitment to Quality Improvement

Prepared by the UME Team

Quality assurance: using student feedback to evaluate the student experience in rural and urban settings.

With the expansion of the Cumming School of Medicine to serve more rural and regional communities, rural and regional clerkship experiences will increase. Understanding how students perceive these settings is critical for quality assurance and curriculum planning. We analyzed 6,000+ clerkship block evaluations collected between 2020 and 2025, focusing on two key dimensions: (1) overall rating of the block experience (1–5 scale) and (2) qualitative comments on strengths and improvements. Rural blocks received significantly higher ratings than urban blocks (mean 4.48 vs. 4.07; median 5 vs. 4). Welch’s t-test indicated a mean difference of –0.41 (Urban – Rural), 95% CI [–0.50, –0.32], $p = 2.04 \times 10^{-17}$



*Standard Deviation: Rural .87, Urban .92

Next steps:

Thematic analysis revealed common strengths in both settings, including supportive preceptors and strong teaching. Rural comments emphasized breadth of cases and autonomy, while urban comments highlighted organizational resources. These findings underscore the need to maintain high-quality teaching across settings while addressing operational gaps. Insights from this analysis will inform curriculum design and support the expansion of rural and regional clerkship opportunities.

New Edition of the Calgary Blackbook!

Abdul Al-Shawwa and Daphne Nakhid, with faculty leadership from Dr. Coderre have launched a new edition of the Blackbook. This represents a collective effort of faculty working with student editors to update the schemes across the spectrum.

The Blackbook is a popular Free Open Access Medical Education resource world wide. Canada leads usage (21,623 active users) followed by the US, Indonesia, India, and the Philippines.

In a collaboration with University of Ottawa, University of Alberta, McGill University, a French translation of the Blackbook is coming soon.



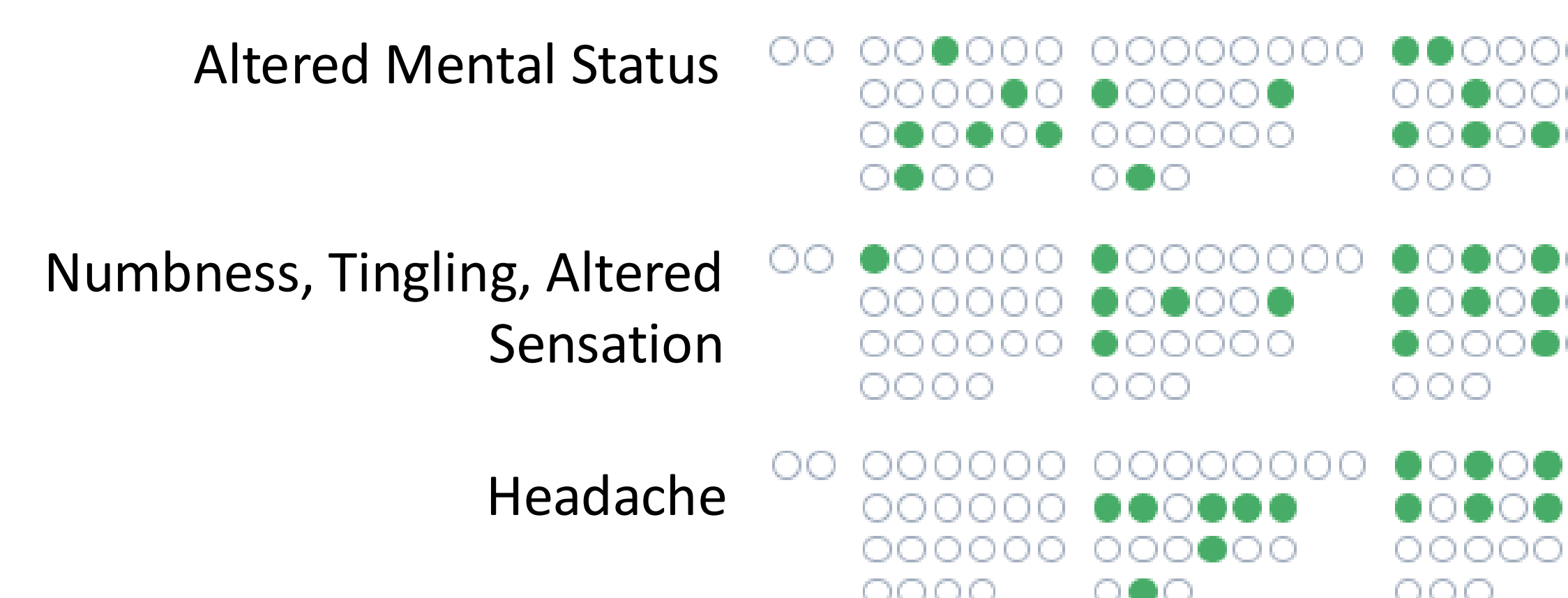
Cover art by Tarannum Rahnuma (Class of 2026)

Curriculum Tagging in FreshSheet

With an incredible amount of time and energy Dr. Wu has completed a full sweep of our Pre-clerkship curriculum and tagged both the MCC presentations and the Health Equity and Structural Competencies.

The MCC tagged now can re-assemble themselves to provide topic focused aides for studying or curricular review. The visualization of the curriculum, shown on the right, demonstrates the spirality of these selected topics

Up next in FreshSheet: Discipline focused material for Clerkship.



Q3 2025

Have an idea to highlight in Progress in Action? Contact ume.manager@ucalgary.ca

