Title

Electronic Web-based Patient Follow Up Logging: Educational and Preferred

Authors

Wilson, SP
Aslani, B
Arrine, A
et al.

Peer reviewed

10 Electronic Web-based Patient Follow Up Logging: Educational and Preferred

Wilson SP, Aslani B, Arrine A, Doyle D, Yang JJ, Goyal N/Henry Ford Hospital System, Detroit, MI; Sinai Hospital, Baltimore, MD

Background: Patient follow up logs are mandated by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) for all Emergency Medicine (EM) Residents nationwide. At our institution we developed and implemented an electronic, web-based format for the purpose of keeping this log.

Objectives: To determine if EM Residents at our institution found ACGME required patient follow up logging to be of educational benefit and if a web-based format was preferred over previously available formats (i.e. paper, excel spreadsheet, etc.).

Methods: At baseline an anonymous survey was conducted of all EM Residents at our urban Level 1 trauma center. The initial survey was distributed prior to the launch of the web-based format. Residents were subsequently allowed the option to use any format they preferred to log their patient follow up during the course of the year. After one year a follow up survey was conducted.

Results: A total of 41 residents participated in the baseline survey. 90.2% indicated that patient follow up logs had educational benefit while only 70.7% identified follow up as an ACGME requirement. Prior to the implementation of a web-based format, 70.7% demonstrated a preference for a web-based option if available. One-year after the implementation of the web-based format, 31 residents participated in the follow up survey. The mean number of follow up logs completed by the survey respondents had significantly increased from 54 to 158.2 ($p<0.001$) with 81.0% of residents preferring the web-based format over traditional logging formats.

Conclusions: The majority of residents at our program found patient follow up logs to be of educational value, thereby validating the ACGME requirement. Additionally, there was a clear preference for web-based format over more traditional follow up logs.