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Western Journal of Emergency Medicine: Integrating Emergency Care with Population Health

Title

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Permalink

https://escholarship.org/uc/item/5g36x8nw

Journal

Western Journal of Emergency Medicine: Integrating Emergency Care with Population Health, 15(5.1)

ISSN

1936-900X

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Publication Date

2014

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Peer reviewed

50 A Novel Approach to Internal Medicine Education for Emergency Medicine Residents

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Background: Internal medicine topics must be mastered by every emergency medicine resident. The most effective method to complete this is uncertain, and traditional internal medicine floor rotations have received mixed reviews by residents at our institution. We employed a new curriculum to educate these topics with the Internal Medicine Follow Up rotation.

Intervention: The Internal Medicine Follow Up rotation replaces the internal medicine floor rotation with an emergency department based approach. Interns log all admitted patients and follow up on further diagnostic tests, treatment, and ultimate disposition. Several times during the rotation, the intern rounds with an emergency medicine attending on the admitted patients to discuss internal medicine topics. At the completion of the rotation, the intern gives a presentation to the residency program on an internal medicine topic of interest. A six-question survey was sent to the interns to gather objective data on the overall quality of the rotation.

Results: Ten of the 12 interns completed the survey. Ninety percent of the interns indicated that the rotation was a more valuable rotation compared to an internal medicine floor. The overall quality of the rotation and availability of the teaching physician were both rated as adequate or above.

Conclusions: Our intervention offers an alternative and possibly more effective method to teach emergency medicine residents internal medicine topics.