Title
An Analysis of Emergency Department Shift Evaluations to Determine Infrequently Assessed Milestones – A Preliminary Report

Permalink
https://escholarship.org/uc/item/1wv58330

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

ISSN
1936-900X

Authors
Baker, A D
Baker, S Y
Bondani, K J
et al.

Publication Date
2014

License
CC BY-NC 4.0

Peer reviewed
An Analysis of Emergency Department Shift Evaluations to Determine Infrequently Assessed Milestones – A Preliminary Report

Baker AD, Baker SY, Bondani KJ, Silvestri S/Orlando Health, Orlando, FL

Background: The Milestones Project is a joint initiative of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education and the American Board of Emergency Medicine, designed to assess the acquisition and progression of competency-based outcome expectations for Emergency Medicine (EM) residents. Many residency programs use standardized shift evaluations to gather milestone-related data.

Objectives: To determine which milestones for Emergency Medicine are infrequently evaluated in the Emergency Department (ED) clinical setting.

Methods: We gathered shift evaluations of 43 residents in a PGY I-III EM residency program from July - October 2013. For each milestone on an evaluation, faculty had identified the item as either “not applicable” or observable (“yes” or “no”). For each milestone, the proportion of evaluations returned as “not applicable” was tabulated. Milestones that met the a priori threshold of >50% “not applicable” were identified as infrequently observed in the ED clinical setting.

Results: The data set included 9730 ratings of 96 EM milestones. Eleven milestones were identified as exceeding the 50% threshold for being evaluated as “not applicable” in the ED clinical setting (Table 1).

Conclusions: Our study identified a specific list of milestones that are difficult to observe in the ED clinical setting. In order to observe these milestones throughout an EM residency, additional methods of evaluation should be developed. Simulation cases, mock-patient encounters, knowledge-based examinations, and off-service evaluations may provide additional opportunities to demonstrate performance.

Table 1: Infrequently Observed Milestones

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competency</th>
<th>Subcompetency</th>
<th>Milestone Level</th>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>% Not Applicable (%/all residents)</th>
<th>% N/A PGY1</th>
<th>% N/A PGY2</th>
<th>% N/A PGY3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patient Care</td>
<td>Emergency Stabilization</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Recognizes in a timely fashion when further clinical intervention is futile</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Systems-based Management</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Participates in processes and lifestyles to improve patient flow and decrease turnaround times (e.g., triage, bed huddle, bedside registration, Fast Track, bedside testing, rapid treatment units, standard protocols, and observation units)</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Professional Values</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Integrates hospital support services into a management strategy for a problematic stabilization situation</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Patient Safety</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Manages processes (e.g., checklists, SIGAR), personnel, and technologies that optimize patient safety</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Accountability</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Manages medical errors according to principles of responsibility and accountability in accordance with institutional policy</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Emergency Stabilization</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Evaluates the validity of a DNR order</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Professional Values</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Leads team reflection such as code debriefings, root cause analysis, or M&amp;M to improve ED performance</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*These items were not present on the standardized shift evaluations for PGYI-level residents.