All NYC EM: A Regional Education Conference Enhancing Emergency Medicine Education

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Introduction/Background: Emergency medicine (EM) residencies strive to improve the education of their residents through innovative didactic programs. The NYC area contains multiple EM residencies and as a result, numerous educators are concentrated in this region. In addition, highly desirable grand rounds speakers may limit repetitive travel to any single region, thereby preventing multiple residency exposures to them.

Educational Objectives: We sought to create a sustainable and innovative region-wide EM educational program for all learners in the NYC metropolitan area. A steering committee representing multiple residency programs was formed to design curriculum and to plan educational events. The “All NYC Emergency Medicine Conference, Inc” [All NYC EM] was registered as a 501(c) (3) non-profit entity with steering committee members serving on its inaugural board.

Curricular Design: All NYC EM hosts spring and fall conferences each year featuring local educators and prominent guest speakers from around the nation. Conferences are themed and have evolved to include multiple short lectures, panel discussions and resident lecture competitions. All NYC EM has also launched an EM Education fellowship (offering funding to Council of Emergency Medicine Residency Directors and iTEACH), an annual chief resident forum and a medical student residency application boot camp.

Impact/Effectiveness: Since its inception, All NYC EM has hosted 7 conferences, 2 chief forums, 1 medical student boot camp and supported 2 fellows. Attendance at the regional conference continues to grow. 533 residents, students and faculty representing 18 EM residencies attended “All NYC 7” in April of 2014. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with a satisfaction score of 4.1 on a 1-5 Likert scale in regards to education content and usefulness in April, 2014. Likewise the chief forum and medical student residency application boot camp have received praise for their contributions beyond traditional student/resident resources.

An Innovative Approach to Emergency Medicine Stroke Education Utilizing Simulation and E-Learning Improves Time to Diagnosis and Treatment: A Pilot Simulation Program

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Introduction/Background: Time is brain. It is of utmost importance to recognize and treat stroke immediately in the emergency department (ED), but residents begin their clinical duties with little practical education on how to approach this complex disease.

Objective: The objective of this curriculum is to teach emergency medicine interns how to recognize and manage acute strokes effectively and efficiently in the ED utilizing a blended curriculum of medical simulation and e-learning.

Curricular Design: Part 1 of the curriculum is completion of the American Heart Association® National Institute of Health (NIH) Stroke Scale online module. Learners then participate in a small group stroke simulation session consisting of 6 cases of neurologic catastrophes and interactive post case debriefing. Cases are original and emphasize the time sensitivity of an accurate diagnosis and treatment plan.

Effectiveness: The effectiveness of the curriculum has been measured over 2 years (n=36). Time to Head computerized tomography (CT) and tissue plasminogen activator (t-PA) orders in the sim cases significantly improved. Initially time to CT order was 7.8 minutes into the case (SD1.8, 95% CI 1.4), which improved to 3.42 minutes(SD 2.3, 95% CI 1.8) by the end of the sessions. The residents also ordered t-PA in ischemic strokes 4.2 minutes faster (CI:[1.97,6.5]). The NIH scoring of the patients was very accurate (SD 0.06) in all cases. The self-efficacy score improvement over the course was significant at 1.6 (CI:[1.9,1.25]). On a multiple choice post-test, scores were on average 22.25 percentage points higher (95% CI:[-29.0-15]).

Teaching complex processes may require multiple educational modalities to be effective. Interns who participated in this blended learning program had improved