

Resident Scholarly Project

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Date: 5/19/2016

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jennifer Bain

Title of Project: Curriculum Development and Structural Assessment of the Neurology Rotation for PGY2 residents.

A. Study Purpose and Rationale: The neurology rotation of PGY2 residents at CHONY is the majority of formal neurology training scheduled into the three-year pediatrics residency. Unfortunately, this rotation is often frustrating for the residents. Consistently, this rotation is rated lowest by current residents. Previously, a former resident, Abby Sage identified the two areas problematic during the rotation: structure of clinical work and content of didactic training. First, the structure of rotation – including rounding with various teams (Epilepsy, Wards, Consult) was repeatedly brought up in surveys and discussions with Dr. Sage. Unfortunately, she did not herself, participate in the rotation, so the exact points of contention were not identified. Secondly, the fellow-to-fellow variance in teaching - both in quality of teaching as well as topics addressed also continue to be a problem in the educational experience of the residents. We seek to develop an intervention to improve satisfaction and increase opportunities for learning during the rotation.

B. Study Design and Statistical Analysis: 2 groups of residents will be assessed. One group will continue in the neurology rotation as it is currently, while a second group will have access to a newly developed curriculum – roughly PGY2 residents during the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 academic years respectively. Approximately 24 students per group. PGY2 residents will be assessed at the end of their neurology and oncology rotations with a satisfaction survey. The difference of the means between the neurology and oncology rotations will be compared using an unpaired t-test.

C. Study Procedure. Approximately 10 presentations will be created to supplement the current neurology rotation. Topics addressed will include, the neurologic exam, seizures, headaches, autoimmune diseases and other common neurological diagnoses. These presentations will be distributed to pediatric neurology fellows to be used for lectures throughout the rotation. Additionally, these presentations will be available to current residents through the pediatrics Courseworks website.

D. Study Drugs: Not Applicable

E. Medical Device: Not Applicable

G. Study Subjects: CHONY residents of the PGY2 class who rotate through the neurology service.

H. Recruitment of Subjects: Residents are required to rotate through the neurology service currently.

I. Confidentiality of Study Data: Surveys will be collected through the nyp.medhub.com portal and are anonymous and collected without identifying information.

J. Potential Conflict of Interest: No conflict of interest to declare

K. Location of the Study: Lectures by fellows will be conducted at CHONY. Materials will also be available online for residents to use on their own time, through the Courseworks website.

L. Potential Risks: None identified. Residents will be staffing the neurology rotation throughout the year regardless of the intervention. Didactic coursework is used in other rotations without identifiable risks.

M. Potential Benefits: Provide a realistic estimate of the possible benefits to the subject, including a statement that “You may or may not benefit as a result of your participation in this study,” and of the potential benefits to society.

N. Alternative Therapies: All current materials will be available to residents to use. No alternative curricula exist.

O. Compensation to Subjects: No compensation will be provided for participation in this study.

P. Costs to Subjects: No costs identified.

Q. Minors as Research Subjects: Not applicable

R. Radiation or Radioactive Substances: Not applicable