

UC Irvine

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

Title

Experience Introducing Physician Assistant Students into a Medical Student Emergency Medicine Clerkship

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/469232tz>

Journal

Western Journal of Emergency Medicine: Integrating Emergency Care with Population Health, 19(4.1)

ISSN

1936-900X

Authors

Turner, J
Corson-Knowles, D
Besinger, B
[et al.](#)

Publication Date

2018

Copyright Information

Copyright 2018 by the author(s). This work is made available under the terms of a Creative Commons Attribution License, available at <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

18 Experience Introducing Physician Assistant Students Into a Medical Student Emergency Medicine Clerkship

Turner J, Corson-Knowles D, Besinger B, Rebman R, Hobgood C, Palmer M, /Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, Indiana

Background: Physician assistants continue to play an increasingly important role in our healthcare system. However, physician assistant student (PAS) training in the emergency department has not been previously described.

Objectives: The objectives of our study were to determine the impact of the introduction of PAS into a learning environment that already serves medical students (MS) and residents, and to assess the readiness of PAS to participate in an established MS emergency medicine clerkship.

Methods: A survey was constructed by a team of emergency physicians and PAS educators with expertise in medical education and based on competencies endorsed by the school of medicine and the PAS program at our institution. The survey contained 18 questions in two domains: 11 questions asking about the effect of PAS on the emergency department learning environment and 7 questions comparing the skills of PAS with MS. It was distributed to emergency medicine faculty and residents shortly after the introduction of PAS into two academic emergency departments. Data from MS evaluations of the clerkship and shift evaluations were also collected.

Results: The majority of preceptors were either neutral or positive regarding the impact of PAS on the overall learning environment with only 9% believing PAS negatively impacted the learning milieu. Fifty-two percent felt that the presence of PAS offered a valuable interprofessional educational experience for MS and 67% felt the experience was valuable for residents. Sixty-one percent of preceptors felt that PAS were well prepared

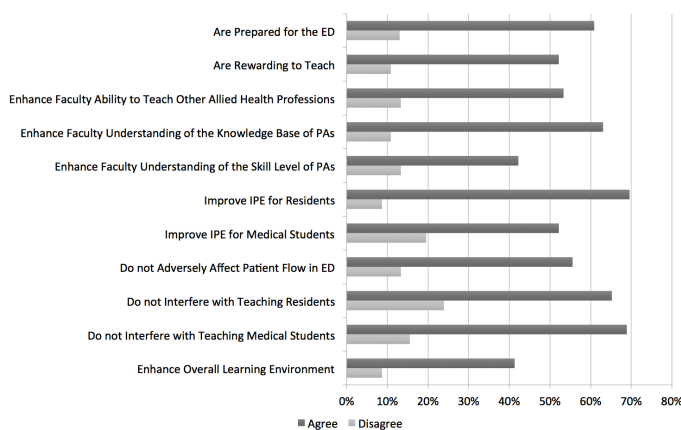


Figure 1. Impact of PA students on ED staff, learning environment, and workflow. ED, emergency department; PA, physician's assistant; IPE, Interprofessional education

Table 1. Medical Student Evaluations of Clerkship.

Student Evaluation of Clerkship	September 2013-April 2014		September 2014-April 2015	
	ED-A	ED-B	ED-A	ED-B
"Rate the overall quality of your educational experience in this clerkship" ¹	3.67 (N)	3.81 (N)	3.66 (56)	3.68 (57)
"I had an opportunity to follow a variety of different patients with different medical conditions." ²	4.69 (N)	4.58 (N)	4.71 (56)	4.67 (57)
"Faculty members provided me with sufficient feedback on my performance." ²	4.29 (N)	4.5 (N)	4.32 (56)	4.35 (57)
"Faculty provided effective teaching." ²	4.59 (N)	4.73 (N)	4.59 (56)	4.6 (57)

¹Scale 1-4

²Scale 1-5

to handle the ED environment, and preceptors rated PAS performance as similar to MS in a majority of competencies. However, 53% of preceptors believed PAS fund of knowledge was not equivalent to MS. Medical student evaluations of the quality of the clerkship were similar before and after the introduction of PAS. The quantity of MS evaluations decreased from an average of 15.7 per month to an average of 14.7 per month following the introduction of PAS.

Conclusions: The impact of introducing PAS to a MS emergency medicine clerkship is viewed as being mostly positive, though preceptors did express some concerns. More research is needed to understand and optimize the learning involvement for all learners.

19 Faculty and Resident Perception of Emergency Department Feedback

Siddiqui M, Baliga S /Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, Michigan

Background: One of the core components of resident development is feedback of clinical performance. Prior studies have evaluated faculty and resident satisfaction with feedback in the emergency department (ED). However, there are no recent studies that evaluate how feedback is conceptualized and what topics residents and faculty find most useful when giving or receiving feedback. Such information would provide an understanding of the current state of this essential educational opportunity and help guide a feedback improvement plan.

Objectives: The purpose of our study is to ascertain the perception of feedback delivered from faculty physicians to residents during and after an ED shift.

Methods: We performed an observational study comparing perception of feedback between ED faculty and residents through an online survey. Specific aims include comparing perception of feedback as it is performed currently between faculty and residents as well as how each group believes feedback should be performed to be the most effective and useful.