

YAHP Dinner Meeting
December 1, 2008
St Mary's Hospital

MEETING MINUTES

In attendance:

*Yale School of Medicine/
Yale-New Haven Hospital*

Tracy Crosby
Steve Huot, MD, PhD
Silvio Inzucchi, MD

Bridgeport Hospital

George Abdelsayed, MD
Ana Casanegra, MD

Danbury Hospital

Janaka Periyapperuma, MD
Michael Schiffman, MD
Winston Shih, MD

Greenwich Hospital

Charles Seelig, MD

Griffin Hospital

Kenneth Dobuler, MD
Seema D'Souza, MD
Haq Nawaz, MD

Hospital of St. Raphael

--

Norwalk Hospital

Joseph Cleary, MD
Mark Kulaga, MD
Steve O'Mahony, MD

St. Mary's Hospital

Shawnette Alston, MD
Leigh Aronin
Gregory Buller, MD
Joanne Calandrino
Henry Gift, MD
Jason Ouellette, MD
Jaideep Talwalkar, MD
Lisa Trusch

Waterbury Hospital

Jock Lawrason, MD

Dr. Gregory Buller, Chief of Medicine at St. Mary's Hospital and tonight's host, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Dr. Buller then proceeded to present a research study conducted in the SMH residency program and published in the *Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology* earlier this year, "Retrospective review of the frequency of ECG changes in hyperkalemia".

Briefly, the investigators found that the classic ECG changes described in textbooks of medicine are infrequently encountered in actual practice. This proved to be the case even in situations when patients developed significant ventricular arrhythmias. Accordingly, a normal ECG likely does not rule out the need for prompt therapy of the electrolyte disturbance. Discussion ensued regarding conclusions.

Dr. Buller then introduced Dr. Jaideep Talwalkar, a faculty member in Medicine/Pediatrics based at SMH. Dr. Talwalkar and Dr. Jason Ouellette, Associate Program Director for St. Mary's Hospital, developed an educational intervention, the READ Workshop (Reviewing Effective and Accurate Documentation).

Meeting Minutes, *cont'd*

The seeds for this program were planted during a site visit preparation, when improvements were sought in the area of instruction and feedback, particularly regarding clinical documentation in the medical record. It was quickly realized that, outside of a brief overview at orientation, there was no formal training or instruction for residents on optimal charting.

The workshops consist of a one-hour session each month, which all on-site housestaff attend. There are typically 30 residents and about 6 faculty to facilitate a small group structure. Dr. Talwalkar select chart notes randomly and de-identifies both the patient and the scribe. Each session focuses on one type of note – discharge, H&P, etc. There's an individual review of the note, followed by small group discussion, and then larger group discussion. At the end of the session, comments are compiled and entered into a summary document and put into resident's file. There's also an informal feedback process, most often times the note writer talking to attendings and fellow residents after the session.

Discussion then followed regarding outcomes, which are a bit difficult to determine as the program has only been in place about a year. But anecdotally, Dr. Talwalkar has noticed that residents attending READ are more critical of their own charting and are anxious to improve their documentation.

www.stmh.org/read

Dr. Steve Huot, Associate Chair for Academic Affairs at Yale's Department of Internal Medicine, was introduced to discuss new ACGME program requirements, particularly on the outpatient side. Dr. Huot inquired as to how close programs are to the mandated 130 clinics/resident. In most cases, the programs appeared to be at this target or reasonably close. Discussion ensued as to what types of clinic "counts" – for example, that within a subspecialty rotation (they typically do not) or an urgent care visit in a resident's own clinic or a home visit (which do.) Dr. Huot reminded the attendees that a good rule of thumb when trying to calculate the months of outpatient clinics required is "30 months" of continuity clinic, with the longest non-clinic gap being 6 weeks. This will accommodate most external rotations, such as international health electives.

Next, Dr. Silvio Inzucchi, Program Director for the YAHP, addressed the next annual retreat (on Wednesday, November 4, 2009 at the Brooklawn Country Club in Fairfield), specifically regarding possible topics/speakers. Traditionally the retreat theme has involved a broad educational or training theme, such as medical errors, international health, and professionalism. One issue that has been raised is whether a future topic might be more disease-focused, such as genetics in medicine.

Dr. George Abdelsayed from Bridgeport Hospital supported the idea of narrowing the topic, and he especially agreed with the suggestion of genetics, as genetics testing is becoming a standard of care in the diagnosis of many disease states.

Dr. Haq Nawaz from Griffin Hospital raised the concern that something like genetics might become too didactic in nature, and this type of lecture is readily

Meeting Minutes, cont'd

available through other CME activities. He supported topics such as changes in medical education – the more stringent requirements, the impact of duty hours – putting a more academic spin on the evolution of medical education.

Dr. Charles Seelig from Greenwich Hospital agreed, and listed work hours and work intensity as another potential topic. He also mentioned innovations in medical education and how to incorporate cutting edge concepts within the educational community (such as genetics testing).

Dr. Inzucchi then commented that he felt the best retreats in the past have been those that encompassed broad educational topics in the morning session, and then used the afternoon to highlight how the different Affiliates are incorporating these issues in their own programs.

Other ideas were proposed (getting residents involved in reflective learning; foreign medical graduates and acculturation) and Dr. Inzucchi asked for volunteers to participate in a committee to solidify plans. Drs. Abdelsayed, Nawaz, O'Mahony, and Seelig all volunteered. Anyone else interested should contact either Dr. Inzucchi or Tracy Crosby.

Dr. Buller then brought the meeting to a close at 8:30pm

*Please mark your calendars for
the next YAHP Dinner Meeting on
Wednesday, February 11, 2009
at Waterbury Hospital.*