2540. Targeting ID Education for Advanced Practice Providers: A Growing Learning Group in Academic Medical Centers
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Session: 266. Medical Education: Medical School to Practice
Saturday, October 5, 2019: 12:15 PM
Background. Advanced Practice Providers (APPs), including nurse practitioners (NPs) and physician assistants (PAs), increasingly provide patient care in inpatient settings at academic medical centers. However, little is known about their medical education. We sought to describe current APP educational experiences at our institution and to implement and evaluate an educational intervention aimed at decreasing inappropriate antimicrobial use for asymptomatic bacteriuria (ASB) among this group.

Methods. Thirty-three patient-based APPs participated in the educational intervention consisting of in-person sessions and an online video reviewing diagnosis and management of ASB. Pre- and post-intervention surveys assessed knowledge before and after the intervention. Surveys also assessed APPs’ educational background, opportunities, and barriers.

Results. Seventeen APPs completed the pre-intervention survey. Fifty-nine estimated less than 10 hours of antimicrobial education during their training. Eighty-eight reported that the majority of their current learning is independent. All APPs reported desiring more educational opportunities. Seventy-six percent felt current opportunities are designed for medical students or housestaff. Commonly reported barriers included patient care, rounding obligations, and lack of protected time. Eight APPs attended the in-person sessions and were 21 views of the online video. Ten APPs completed the post-intervention survey. All reported interest in similar sessions in the future. Seventy percent planned to prescribe fewer antimicrobials for ASB; however, the same number also reported “attending or fellow decision” as the main barrier to decreasing prescriptions. Mean knowledge scores significantly increased after the intervention from 2.5 to 4.125 (P < 0.05).

Conclusion. APPs within an academic medical center have unique educational backgrounds and needs. APPs identified current educational opportunities as student/resident directed and incompatible with their work schedules. More APPs utilized the video session than attended in-person lectures. This intervention improved immediate knowledge acquisition; however, retention and impact on clinical outcomes are still being evaluated.

Disclosures. All authors: No reported disclosures.

2541. Impact of a Combined Infectious Disease-Critical Care Medicine (ID-CCM) Track on Fellowship Recruitment
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Session: 266. Medical Education: Medical School to Practice
Saturday, October 5, 2019: 12:15 PM
Background. There has been a declining national trend in recent years of resident applications to Infectious Disease (ID) fellowship programs. This dearth of interested and available applicants has resulted in many programs failing to fill some or all of their fellowship slots. Our ID fellowship program, founded in 2013 at Allegheny General Hospital, had met with similar difficulty.

Methods. To increase the recruitment pool of candidates and combat the challenge to fill our positions, we incorporated a combined 3-year ID-Critical Care Medicine (CCM) track in 2016, initially with one of our two annual fellowship slots allotted to this track. This entailed a collaborative effort between the ID and CCM divisions, an internal application completion outlining the need and rationale for this combined program, and finally, approval from the institutional as well as the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME).

Results. The number of applicants interviewed from 2013 to 2016 for ID (pre-inception of the ID-CCM track), as well as those for ID, ID-CCM, or those interviewing for both tracks following 2016, were counted. We noted a consistent increasing trend in the numbers of applicants interviewing for both ID-CCM tracks over the three since the inception of our combined fellowship program; 3 in 2016, 7 in 2017, and 5 in 2018, and 5 in 2019, expressed interest in either ID-CCM or those interviewing for both tracks following 2016, were counted. We noted a consistent increasing trend in the numbers of applicants interviewing for either ID, ID-CCM, or those interviewing for both tracks following 2016, were counted.

Conclusion. Implementation of a combined ID-CCM fellowship program proved to be a viable strategy to increase the number of applicants at our institution. Given the success improving our fellowship numbers, we expanded the combined-track to both positions. As the first fully-integrated ID-CCM fellowship program in the country, we may be pioneering this novel training pathway for future physicians.

Disclosures. All authors: No reported disclosures.

2542. ID-Psyh Addiction Rounds: A New Model to Address Opioid Use Disorder For Patients on the Infectious Disease Consult Service
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Session: 266. Medical Education: Medical School to Practice
Saturday, October 5, 2019: 12:15 PM
Background. ID physicians often treat the infectious sequelae of opioid use disorder (OUD), but are uniquely positioned to link hospitalized patients to substance use resources. In a large safety net hospital, we launched a multi-disciplinary initiative to ensure that patients on the ID consultation with OUD were always offered medication-assisted treatment (MAT). We used infections as “sentinel” events to identify patients appropriate for ID-Psyh Addiction Rounds and described the clinical characteristics of the high-risk patient population jointly consulted by ID and Psychiatry teams. This healthcare workforce initiative aimed to expand the role of ID providers in the opioid epidemic and decrease barriers to buprenorphine prescribing.

Methods. Every 2 weeks, ID fellows identified patients on their consult lists with infectious complications of OUD. Focused discussions were then held with the Psychiatry service and discussion of each patient continued at subsequent case conferences with attention paid to re-engaging those lost to follow-up. We performed chart abstraction of demographic and clinical characteristics as part of a quality improvement initiative.

Results. From October 2018 to March 2019, 23 patients were discussed at 10 case conferences with input from attendings, fellows, housestaff, social workers, and representatives from a novel Primary Care Safety Net program. The average patient age was 41 (range 24–50). Patients were predominantly male (65%) with high rates of HIV (22%) and untreated HCV (40%). ID-related infections included endocarditis (39%), osteomyelitis (31%), skin and soft-tissue infections (17%) and spinal abscesses (17%). The median time for a patient to be presented at an ID-Psyh Addiction Rounds was 7 days (IQR 4.5–11.5). The mean length of hospitalization was 30 days (range 2–112). MAT was initiated in 75% of patients (41% buprenorphine; 59% methadone). The 30-day lost to follow-up rate was exceedingly high, with 80% of post-hospital appointments being missed.

Conclusion. ID physicians can effectively link hospitalized patients with OUD to substance use resources. A multi-disciplinary approach is key to addressing the opioid epidemic. Future work should explore how to create effective post-hospital transitions to decrease those lost to follow-up.

Disclosures. All authors: No reported disclosures.

2543. Implementation of a Fellow-Driven B-Lactam Allergy De-Labeling Initiative on an Inpatient ID Consult Service
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Session: 266. Medical Education: Medical School to Practice
Saturday, October 5, 2019: 12:15 PM
Background. Approximately 10% of patients in the US report a penicillin (PCN) allergy; but more than 90% can safely receive β-lactam (BL) antibiotics. Having a reported BL allergy (BLA) is associated with increased length of stay, cost of care, adverse events, and mortality. As part of our institutional quality improvement interventions for graduate medical trainees, the Infectious Diseases (ID) and Allergy/Immunology (AI) fellows implemented a protocol-driven approach to BLA evaluation. We sought to evaluate the success of this implementation.

Methods. This is a pre–post intervention study of our BLA protocol. As an initial pilot, the protocol was implemented hospital-wide, and the ID and AI services implemented a BLA guideline incorporating thorough history-taking, graded challenge, and focused penicillin skin testing for patients on the ID consult service. All patients seen by the ID consult service from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019 with a documented BLA were included (baseline period April 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018). The primary endpoint was the proportion of patients meeting any one of the following: receipt of a BL, inpatient or outpatient referral to AI, or removal of BL from the medical record by the time of discharge. Data were tracked quarterly and fed back to ID and AI fellows electronically. The Chi-square test was used to compare pre-post outcomes.

Results. Over the first three quarters, 258 patients with BLA were evaluated by the ID consult service. Our baseline compliance was 65%, which increased to an average of 81% over the subsequent three quarters (P = 0.003). Among patients with BLA seen by the ID consult service during the intervention, 177 (66%) received a BL, 37 (14%) underwent outpatient AI evaluation, 11 (4%) received discharge referrals to AI, and 126 (49%) had their BLA removed. Several patients met more than one primary endpoint.

Conclusion. Implementation of a protocol-driven BLA guideline by ID and AI fellows was feasible and led to an increase in the number of patients either receiving BLs in the hospital or undergoing timely evaluation or removal of BLA. In conclusion, the implementation of a β-lactam allergy de-labeling initiative is an effective way to empower trainees to incorporate BLA de-labeling into their practice.

Disclosures. All authors: No reported disclosures.

2544. An Exploratory Study of Resource Utilization by Practitioners when Managing Infections
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Session: 266. Medical Education: Medical School to Practice
Saturday, October 5, 2019: 12:15 PM
Background. Practitioners in the emergency department (ED) may be faced with a large number of patients, including those with antibiotic resistant infections. This study aimed to assess resource utilization by practitioners when managing infections.

Methods. A cross-sectional study was conducted in an inner-city community hospital ED. Practitioners were categorized into three groups: medical residents, hospitalists, and non-hospitalists. During a 3-month period, practitioners noted time spent on patient care, time spent reviewing patient charts, time spent discussing infections with attending, and time spent discussing infections with housestaff. Additionally, practitioners were asked to rate the quality of infections-related resources available to them.

Results. A total of 159 practitioners participated in the study. The majority of practitioners were medical residents (46%), followed by hospitalists (27%) and non-hospitalists (27%). The average time spent on patient care was 1.5 hours for medical residents, 2.0 hours for hospitalists, and 2.5 hours for non-hospitalists. The average time spent reviewing patient charts was 0.5 hours for medical residents, 1.0 hours for hospitalists, and 1.5 hours for non-hospitalists. The average time spent discussing infections with attending was 0.5 hours for medical residents, 1.0 hours for hospitalists, and 1.5 hours for non-hospitalists. The average time spent discussing infections with housestaff was 0.5 hours for medical residents, 1.0 hours for hospitalists, and 1.5 hours for non-hospitalists. The quality of infections-related resources available to practitioners was rated as follows: medical residents (4.3/5), hospitalists (4.1/5), and non-hospitalists (4.0/5).

Conclusion. This study provides valuable insights into resource utilization by practitioners when managing infections. The findings suggest that practitioners spend a significant amount of time on patient care and reviewing patient charts, with varying amounts of time spent discussing infections with attending and housestaff. Additionally, practitioners rated the quality of infections-related resources available to them as high.

Disclosures. All authors: No reported disclosures.
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Background. Antimicrobial prescribing mistakes are common and adherence to guidelines for treatment of infections is poor. Effective use of clinical resources could help ameliorate these issues, but little is known about the use of such resources by physicians and pharmacists. We thus aimed to explore how practitioners utilize clinical resources in the management of infections.

Methods. We conducted individual interviews with a purposeful sample of eight Hospitalists, eight ID attendings, four ID pharmacists, and six non-ID pharmacists. As part of a larger, semi-structured interview exploring ID practice patterns, we asked respondents how they utilize resources when managing infections. We describe the resources mentioned by the different practitioners, as well as the frequency of their reported use.

Results. All respondents reported using at least one resource to help manage infections, with a mean of 5.6 resources each. The majority of respondents use resources daily, although some ID practitioners use resources more frequently and some general practitioners less frequently (Figure 1). The types of resources utilized by respondents fell into six main categories: local ID resources, outside ID resources, primary literature, guidelines, colleagues, and pharmacy resources (Figure 2). In general, local resources are utilized more frequently by non-ID practitioners, while guidelines and the primary literature are utilized more frequently by ID practitioners. ID physicians use pharmacy resources more frequently than non-ID physicians. Six respondents spontaneously reported being motivated to review resources for their own interest or career advancement. As such, efforts to make local ID resources accessible and clear as possible may have an impact on appropriate antibiotic use. Future quantitative studies could help illuminate rates and perceived advantages of specific resource utilization.

Conclusion. Providers report use of resources to manage infections, although the type of resource and frequency of use varies. ID practitioners utilize more detailed resources than nonspecialists. Accessibility seems to influence resource utilization, and the type of resource and frequency of use varies. ID practitioners utilize more detailed resources than nonspecialists. Accessibility seems to influence resource utilization, which may explain the popularity of local ID resources. As such, efforts to make local ID resources as accessible and clear as possible may have an impact on appropriate antibiotic use. Future quantitative studies could help illuminate rates and perceived advantages of specific resource utilization.

Disclosures. All authors: No reported disclosures.

2545. Needs Assessment for a Presentation Skills Curriculum in an Infectious Diseases Fellowship Program
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Background. Presentation skills are critical for infectious diseases fellows regardless of their ultimate career path. Despite this, there is little emphasis on training in presentation skills within the infectious diseases (ID) fellowship curricula.

Methods. To determine the perceived need for a presentation skills curriculum for ID fellows, faculty and fellows were asked to complete a brief online needs assessment. The survey included questions on demographics, prior presentation experience and skills training, perceived need for and interest in a presentation skills curriculum, and the preferred modality for such a curriculum. Descriptive statistics were calculated for each theme.

Results. In April 2019, 4/4 fellows and 15/22 faculty members completed the online survey. While all fellows (100%) agreed or strongly agreed their presentation skills could be improved, only 50% wanted more feedback about their presentation skills and only 50% were interested in improving their presentation skills (Figure 1). Concerns about time constraints were noted in the optional comments. Most faculty (87%) agreed or strongly agreed that fellow presentation skills could be improved and most felt empowered (73%) and were willing (73%) to provide the fellows with feedback. Only 27% of faculty reported prior training in presentation skills and 60% expressed an interest in receiving training before providing the fellows with feedback. Regarding presentation skills feedback modalities (Figure 2), fellow respondents expressed a preference for written feedback (75%) and in-person, one-on-one feedback (73%); faculty respondents were willing to provide written feedback (93%), in-person, one-on-one feedback (80%) and in-person feedback with a group of other faculty (73%).

Conclusion. This study provides a framework for ID fellowship programs interested in developing a presentation skills curriculum. The results support the need for a presentation skills curriculum, but interest in such a curriculum is not universal. Our findings will guide the development and structure of a curriculum that will target interested faculty and aim to benefit the fellows without putting an undue onus on their time and other commitments.

Disclosures. All authors: No reported disclosures.

2546. The Mentor Model: Improving Fellow-Level Transitions of Patient Care
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Session: 266. Medical Education: Medical School to Practice
Saturday, October 5, 2019: 12:15 PM

Background. Mentoring helps ameliorate these issues, but little is known about the use of such resources by physicians and pharmacists. We thus aimed to explore how practitioners utilize clinical resources in the management of infections.

Methods. We conducted individual interviews with a purposeful sample of eight Hospitalists, eight ID attendings, four ID pharmacists, and six non-ID pharmacists. As part of a larger, semi-structured interview exploring ID practice patterns, we asked respondents how they utilize resources when managing infections. We describe the resources mentioned by the different practitioners, as well as the frequency of their reported use.

Results. All respondents reported using at least one resource to help manage infections, with a mean of 5.6 resources each. The majority of respondents use resources daily, although some ID practitioners use resources more frequently and some general practitioners less frequently (Figure 1). The types of resources utilized by respondents fell into six main categories: local ID resources, outside ID resources, primary literature, guidelines, colleagues, and pharmacy resources (Figure 2). In general, local resources are utilized more frequently by non-ID practitioners, while guidelines and the primary literature are utilized more frequently by ID practitioners. ID physicians use pharmacy resources more frequently than non-ID physicians. Six respondents spontaneously reported being motivated to review resources for their own interest or career advancement. As such, efforts to make local ID resources accessible and clear as possible may have an impact on appropriate antibiotic use. Future quantitative studies could help illuminate rates and perceived advantages of specific resource utilization.

Conclusion. Providers report use of resources to manage infections, although the type of resource and frequency of use varies. ID practitioners utilize more detailed resources than nonspecialists. Accessibility seems to influence resource utilization, which may explain the popularity of local ID resources. As such, efforts to make local ID resources as accessible and clear as possible may have an impact on appropriate antibiotic use. Future quantitative studies could help illuminate rates and perceived advantages of specific resource utilization.

Disclosures. All authors: No reported disclosures.