Interprofessional Hospital Service Model for Cardiovascular Trainees in a Large Academic Institution

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Abstract

Background: The incorporation of interprofessional care into training programs has become increasingly important. Cardiologists are frequently involved in the care of patients with complex medical issues that may need to be managed by multiple disciplines.

Methods: We conducted a needs assessment with all of the cardiovascular trainees and with the hospital pharmacy team, social workers, and other hospital staff to determine what areas of knowledge, skills, and topics needed to be covered. We then designed an interprofessional hospital service model in which fellows lead a hospital service, allowing them to practice and develop new abilities.

Results: We evaluated the service using a survey sent to all fellows who were involved in the pilot. The survey assessed outcomes, including whether they felt more comfortable making critical clinical decisions and whether they felt more prepared to work in a busy team.

Conclusions: The interprofessional hospital service model was well received by fellows and allowed them to develop new skills in a controlled environment.

Keywords: Interprofessional care, Cardiovascular medicine, Training programs

Methods

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Objectives

• To develop a model of interprofessional care that could be replicated at other institutions.
• To assess the impact of the model on trainee learning outcomes.
• To assess the impact of the model on patient care outcomes.

Definition of Interprofessional Care

Interprofessional care is the provision of comprehensive health care services by multiple health care providers (physicians, nurses, pharmacists, social workers, and others) who work together in a collaborative manner to achieve a common goal.

Inclusion of Cardiovascular Fellows

Cardiovascular fellows were included in the program because they have a unique set of skills and knowledge that make them well-suited for interprofessional care.

Program Description

Our Program Evaluation Committee designed a hospital service to meet four specific ACGME core competencies in training: 1. Demonstrate an understanding of the patient care process; 2. Practice-Based Learning- Direct Patient Care; 3. Interpersonal Communication; 4. Systems-Based Practice.

The CV fellow is primarily running the service and only supervised by attending faculty. The service is seen in the CCU, typically the majority of IP care is found on the step-down wards. We also had feedback from our allied health staff, non-physician members of the health care team; nurse practioners and physician assistants, social workers, pharmacists, physical and occupational therapists, Chaplin, etc.

Background

Nationally there is a growing emphasis for the practice of interprofessional care. This is predicated on the belief that an interdisciplinary team working together can lead to better outcomes for patients. This model of care is commonly referred to as team-based care.

We conducted a needs assessment with cardiovascular trainees and hospital staff to determine what areas of knowledge, skills, and topics needed to be covered. We then designed an interprofessional hospital service model in which fellows lead a hospital service, allowing them to practice and develop new abilities.

Results

We evaluated the service using a survey sent to all fellows who were involved in the pilot. The survey assessed outcomes, including whether they felt more comfortable making critical clinical decisions and whether they felt more prepared to work in a busy team.

Conclusions

The interprofessional hospital service model was well received by fellows and allowed them to develop new skills in a controlled environment.

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Discussion

With increasing demands on the health care delivery system, continuing education in teamwork is critical. With the increasing focus on patient satisfaction, the interprofessional hospital service model provides a practical way to train fellows.

The complex nature of running a hospital service requires teamwork. Fellows are encouraged to work closely with their attending physician and with other members of the health care team.

Team-based care is an important component of the interprofessional hospital service model. Fellows are encouraged to work closely with their attending physician and with other members of the health care team.

Conclusion

The interprofessional hospital service model was well received by fellows and allowed them to develop new skills in a controlled environment.