Healthcare Organization Commitment

Contact Details

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Commitment Details

Commitment Name
Emergency Physician Airway Management Training and Standardization of Guidelines

Participants
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What Patient Safety Challenge does your Commitment address?
Challenge 8A - Safer airway management
How Many Hospitals Will This Commitment Represent

**Commitment Summary**

Airway management in the emergency department is a critical skill set of emergency physicians. It is comprised of knowledge, skills and decision-making that is critical for providing the highest quality, safest care to patients needing respiratory support. Airway management mastery is critically important in this environment as decisions need to be made on the seconds to minute’s basis to alleviate permanent and organ dysfunction such as anoxic brain injury and/or death. Training of emergency physicians in difficult airway skills and team leadership, as well as standardizing emergency department airway guidelines across the UPMC Health System is an important step for continuing high-quality emergency care to the 700,000 patients who seek emergency care within the UPMC health system annually.

**Commitment Description & Detail**

Leveraging the resources of the WISER simulation center of UPMC and the University of Pittsburgh we will refine development of a comprehensive simulation-based immersive learning training program in emergency physician airway management. We will develop evidence-based algorithmic approach to emergency physician airway management guidelines to implement a crossed the emergency departments of the UPMC Health System. The training program will consist of web-based education to ensure cognitive mastery of the knowledge base materials as well as hands on immersive learning in the simulation center environment to provide opportunities for physicians to engage in simulated real-time practice of airway management cases to foster learning and mastery of the topic. Training will include modules on inter-professional teamwork and leadership skills. The program will also provide deliberate practice opportunities to engage in the psychomotor skills practice of seldom used but critical procedures associated with airway management in the emergency department.

**Action Plan**

- Refine existing curricular materials
- Refine existing airway management guidelines through a consensus of evidence and best practice experts in emergency medicine at UPMC
- Create web-based education modules
- Create appropriate simulation-based scenarios and course design
- Create instructor training faculty guidelines
- Create course evaluation and feedback materials
- Deploy training program to all emergency physicians across the UPMC health system

**Commitment Timeline**

Q1 2016 - Curriculum material refinement and course creation complete by Q2 2016
- Begin offering training program at various simulation facilities located throughout the health system
Q4 2017 - Goal of training completed by all attending emergency physicians and completion of the project