

Retrospective Review of Anesthesiology Resident Education: A Needs Assessment

Kirk Kinard, D.O., Kenneth Oswalt, M.D., Whitney Wiltshire, Ph.D., Claude Brunson, M.D.

University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, Mississippi

Learner audience: Residents and faculty in Anesthesiology Departments.

Needs Assessment: A brief departmental survey, approved by the Institutional Review Board, was administered to Anesthesiology residents (N=21) and faculty (n=10) to assess current educational practices surrounding clinical rotations and determine frequency of faculty initiated use of relevant clinical keywords generated by the American Board of Anesthesiology (ABA). The survey consisted of 10 questions with five Likert-scale response options ranging from “never” to “always”. Needs assessment analysis revealed that the majority of faculty and residents were in agreement that rotation objectives were identified by the faculty and discussed with the residents prior to and following the monthly rotation. Many (43%) of the residents indicated that ABA daily keywords were used “sometimes”, while the majority of residents (57%) indicated that the keywords were “never” or “rarely” used. Half (50%) of the faculty surveyed indicated that daily keyword use was “never” or “rarely” practiced. Faculty further indicated that they did not typically initiate keyword use with residents on a daily basis (40%=“never” and 40%=“rarely”). Our study provides justification for additional educational efforts with Anesthesiology faculty and residents concerning ABA daily keyword use.

Curriculum: Discussion of ABA keywords on a daily basis is integrated into the curriculum and intended to provide residents the opportunity to practice using and discuss relevant anesthesia terms with faculty. Keywords are distributed among residents based on the yearly ABA analysis of terms missed on Board or In-Training Exams. Daily words are posted in the department to help generate discussion among faculty and residents.

Impact: The impact of this study is reflected in our ability to better focus educational efforts toward relevant areas for residents and faculty. A brief survey such as the one used in our study is feasible and practical, allowing the residents and faculty to help guide departmental educational efforts.