Night-On-Call: A Simulation Program to Assess Competency in the AAMC’s Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs)

Lynn Buckvar-Keltz, MD, Adina Kalet, MD, Thomas S. Riles, MD
NYU Langone Medical Center

THE QUESTION
How do we determine if our students are meeting the AAMC EPA criteria?

OUR GOALS
To enable students to practice clinical reasoning skills.
To develop a means of measuring the competence of our transitioning students with respect to the EPA criteria.
To identify areas within our own curriculum that may need to be enhanced to better prepare our students for residency.

METHODOLOGY
Creation of a situated mixed modality program where the trainee is exposed to deliberate integrated experiences that are anchored in common authentic clinical problems.
Develop reliable measures that address each of the 13 criteria listed in the AAMC’s entrustable professional activities.

STUDY
IRB approved study of 76 transitioning medical students.
Outcome: variability in measured preparedness for residency for individual students.
Although larger numbers of participants and long-term follow-up are needed to validate the methodology, we believe Night-On-Call is a reliable means of assessing entrustability of our transitioning students.

COMPONENTS OF NIGHT-ON-CALL

Students evaluate four standardized patients:

Cases
1. Oliguria – BPH
2. Oliguria – Contrast induced nephropathy
3. Hypertension and headache
4. Informed consent

Standardized patients and standardized nurse assess the learners skills, clinical reasoning, professionalism and communication.

Presentation of Case to an Attending
Handoff to Colleague
Writing Clinical Note

Develop Clinical Question and Performing a Literature Search
Search Process is Evaluated by a Medical Librarian
Debriefing

Measuring of Core EPA for Entering Residency in Night-On-Call

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*Measures developed based on validated tools when available. Skills and competencies scales

AAMC Entrustable Professional Activities

- EPA 1: Gather a history and perform a physical examination
- EPA 2: Differentiate a differential diagnosis following a clinical encounter
- EPA 3: Recommend and interpret common diagnostic and laboratory tests
- EPA 4: Give or receive a patient handover to the nurse
- EPA 5: Collaborate as a member of an interdisciplinary team
- EPA 6: Recognize a patient requiring urgent care and initiate evaluation and management
- EPA 7: Identify system failures and contribute to a culture of safety and improvement
- EPA 8: Collect and interpret data from physical examination and laboratory tests
- EPA 9: Communicate effectively
- EPA 10: Negotiate a patient requiring urgent care and initiate evaluation and management
- EPA 11: Obtain informed consent for tests and/or procedures
- EPA 12: Perform general procedures of a patient
- EPA 13: Identify system failures and contribute to a culture of safety and improvement