



STANDARD Patient Continuity

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Abstract

The “Stand By Me” project provides continuity for anesthesiology residents to bring them to the bedsides of surgical patients for the entire perioperative course. Residents will evaluate their continuity patient in pre-operative clinic, provide the subsequent anesthetic management for that patient, and perform the post-operative visit. Outcomes will be followed until discharge, allowing the resident and the patient to develop a relationship outside of the operating room, and the resident to understand a broader view of perioperative medical management.

The Initiative

In our anesthesiology residency training program, residents spend one month in the Anesthesiology Preoperative Clinic (APC) seeing patients scheduled for surgery in the near future. The patients are assigned a different resident for their intraoperative anesthetic care and are seen the next day by yet a third anesthesiology resident. This system provides no continuity and results in residents rarely seeing the same patient more than once. We know from published literature that the patient experience is subjectively improved when the anesthesia provider meets the patient preoperatively and continues care. We believe the present system can and should be changed for the betterment of our patients and our profession.

Background & Purpose