

ABSTRACT: 2018 ELAM Institutional Action Project

Project Title: Surgical Skills Assessment in Orthopedic Surgery Residency Training

Name and Institution: Ann Van Heest MD, University of Minnesota (UMN)

Collaborators: UMN Dept of Orthopedic Surgery, American Board of Orthopedic Surgery (ABOS)

Topic Category: Education

Background: Evaluation of surgical skill competency is necessary as graduate medical education moves from a time-based to competency-based curriculum. The education requirements for ABOS board certification are presently time-based: 60 months of accredited postdoctoral residency are required. At the conclusion of residency training, the program director needs to attest that the resident is “competent in the independent practice of orthopaedic surgery.” Real-time supportive documentation of the resident’s surgical competency for independent practice is currently lacking. Observation by skilled instructors provides an excellent opportunity for assessment. ACGME case logs document the experience of residents with specific cases, but the level of participation and the competency of the resident’s surgical skills are not specifically assessed. Formal documentation of orthopaedic surgery residents’ skills in performing surgical procedures is needed and critically important.

Purpose: To develop and implement surgical skills assessment as a national requirement for orthopedic surgery training.

Methods:

Objective #1: To publish “Resident Surgical Skills Web-Based Evaluation: Comparison of Two Assessment Tools” as collaborative effort of 16 orthopedic surgery residency programs and the ABOS as a validated tool to assess surgical competence and to serve as the scientific basis for use of this assessment tool. (Data collection 1/1/17- 7/1/2017)

Objective #2: To develop and present a strategic plan to the American Board of Orthopedic Surgery for board certification which include assessment of surgical skills.

- a. Appointed to the ABOS Board of Directors (BOD) January 2016
- b. Appointed to Chair of GME Committee for ABOS BOD- October 2017
- c. Enlist partners for collaboration on a national level --meet with ACGME Dr. Tom Nasca Jan 24, 2018
- d. Present Strategic Plan to ABOS BOD- Feb 2018
- e. Enlist partners for collaboration on a national level with Council of Orthopedic Residency Directors (CORD) Presentation March 9, 2018

3. Objective #3: To engage the University of Minnesota in use of surgical skills assessments.

- a. Engagement with GME Committee Chair and Surgical Simulation Center Feb 28, 2018

Results:

#1: Publication accepted in Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery (3/2018)

#2: ABOS approved (2/18) and launched Surgical Skills project (5/18) as part of Knowledge, Skills, and Behavior strategic plan, in collaboration with ACGME and CORD.

#3: UMN Orthopedic Surgery Resident Program engages program-wide Simulation program and surgical skills competency testing

Discussion:

Skills that I learned at ELAM including self-awareness, negotiation, collaboration, effective listening, presentation, professional attire, strategic planning, and delegation have helped me develop a framework for working as an effective and respected leader in graduate medical education as a director of ABOS and as vice-chair of education in UMN Dept of Orthopedic Surgery. These skills have allowed me to move this project collaboratively through year three of a ten-year strategic plan.