Continuity of Care at NYGH: taking stock and planning for the future

Sy

eptor

ec

Δ

Allyson Merbaum MD, CCFP, FCFP, Vanessa Rambihar MD, CCFP, Rebecca Stoller MD, CCFP, David Eisen MD, CCFP, Risa Freeman MD, MEd, CCFP, FCFP

Context & Rationale

- Continuity of Care (CoC) identified as an essential component of the 2011 Triple C Competency Based Curriculum
- Stakeholders report varied experiences of CoC

Objective

- Explore factors that may influence a resident's perception regarding CoC
- Develop strategies to enhance the CoC experience in a preceptor based teaching model

Method

- Review of literature regarding CoC
- Stakeholder consultation through focus groups with residents, and working groups with preceptors

Model Design

- System Resident Preceptor (SRP) model developed as a means of categorizing issues and a tool to implement strategies or improvements
- Model enables the examination of issues through the different lenses that may influence the perception of the CoC experience

References

- 1. Hennen, BK. Continuity of care in family practice. Part 1: Dimensions of continuity. *J of Fam Pract* 1975; 2:371-372.
- McWhinney, I. Continuity of care in Family Practice. Part 2: Implications of Continuity. J of Fam Pract 1975; 2:373-374.
- Tannenbaum D, Konkin J, Parsons E, Saucier D, Shaw L, Walsh A et al. *Triple C competency –based curriculum. Report of the Working Group on Postgraduate Curriculum part 1.* Mississauga, ON: College of Family Physicians of Canada: 2011.
- 4. Kerr J, Walsh A, Konkin J, Tannenbaum D, Organek A, Parsons E, Saucier D, Shaw E, Oandasan I. Continuity: middle C- a very good place to start. *Can Fam Physician* 2011; 57: 1355-1356.
- 5. Lyon W.K. Achieving Continuity of Care in Family Medicine Training. *Can Fam Physician* 1990; 36:1413-1415.
- Schultz K. Strategies to enhance teaching about continuity of care. *Can Fam Physician* 2009; 55: 666-668.



The SRP Model

Issues Identified

- Variability of half day back
- Dilution by multiple preceptors
- Detraction by required FMTU supervision
- Lack of faculty development/support
- Inconsistent remote EMR access
- Prioritization and advocacy by PD
- Lack of prioritization of educational objectives
- Inconsistent approach to follow up: scheduling and investigations
- Limited time to review results with preceptor
- Lack of labeling
- Variability of transfer of responsibility for management
- Inconsistent patient care in other settings
- Minimal support for follow up: scheduling and investigations

Strategies for Improvement

Maximum two primary preceptors

Fixed half day back in FM clinic

- Optimize supervision by PD on FMTU
- New preceptor and resident orientation
- Establish remote EMR access
- Continuity discussion at progress reviews
- Prioritize continuity of patient care in FM clinic
- Educational objectives reviewed with preceptors
- Develop strategies for consistent follow up: scheduling and investigations
- Collaborate with preceptor to manage results
- Label feedback
- Graduated level of responsibility for patient care
- Facilitate patient care in other settings
- Support follow up: scheduling and investigations
- Encourage care of multiple family members
- Identify "the resident's patient"

Conclusion

The SRP Model can:

- Identify issues and perceptions related to CoC
- Identify strategies for improvement and change
- Be applied at other residency sites and for other challenges in health professions education

Next Steps

- Explore literature around interventions at each of the System, Resident and Preceptor levels
- Examine holistic interventions to inculcate CoC experience into the identity of future family physicians.

