QSEA: Models for QI and Safety Curricula Within Residency/Fellowship Programs

Site: Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center: Quality and Safety Curriculum

Total Years in Existence: 12

Current Logistics:

- All interns receive a QI/PS module in ambulatory curriculum.
- All housestaff participate in longitudinal projects in ambulatory mentored by Chief Resident
- All residents take a three-week elective in PS and QI (Stoneman Rotation)
 - 1. Didactics
 - Hands-on adverse event review which is presented at Department Committee
 - 3. Hands-on QI group project
 - 4. Attendance at departmental and hospital committees
- Primary Care Track Residents engage in QI projects within residency practice
- Seniors volunteer for weeklong QI retreat focused on Lean improvement

Resources:

- 0.8 FTE divided among eight core faculty who mentortwice/year (total 50 residents/year); started with three volunteer faculty (10-12 residents/year)
- Tight links with healthcare quality department and residency practice leadership ensure projects align with departmental and hospital goals
- Support of department chair, residency program director and healthcare quality

What has worked well:

- Very limited didactic and mostly hands-on learning keeps them engaged
- Committee attendance opens their eyes to the hospital as an organization
- Having residents work on specific projects has increased buy-in on frontlines when trying to make programmatic changes
- We now have grads who are taking on leadership roles in PS/QI around the country

Professional development

- What we struggle with:
 - Finding projects that are doable in three weeks. Often have to link groups
 - Initial QI project selection (completely open vs. very prescriptive)
- Future directions: expansion to fellowships underway, have incorporated students as well

For more information, the curriculum has been published in two articles referenced below or email Anjala Tess atatess@bidmc.harvard.edu.

- Weingart SN et al. Creating a quality improvement elective for medical house officers. J Gen Intern Med 2004;19:861-67.
- Tess AV et al. Combining clinical microsystems and an experiential quality improvement curriculum to improve residency education in internal medicine. Acad Med. 2009 Mar;84(3):326-34.