Residents’ End-of-Rotation Transition and Patient Mortality

Shift-to-shift transitions in care are associated with adverse events among hospitalized patients. Whether end-of-rotation patient care transitions, in which resident physicians ending a clinical rotation transfer patients to residents coming on service, are associated with adverse events is not known. Denson and colleagues examined this question in a cohort of 230,701 patients admitted to internal medicine services at 10 Veterans Affairs hospitals in 2008 to 2014. The authors found that in-hospital mortality was significantly higher among transition patients (those admitted prior to an end-of-rotation transition who died or were discharged within 7 days following transition) compared with all other patient discharges. In an Editorial, Arora and Farnan discuss why inpatient service changes may be risky for patients.

Depression and Suicidal Ideation Among Medical Students

Medical students have an increased risk for depression and suicidal ideation. To provide estimates of the prevalence of depression and suicidal ideation in this population of young adults, Rotenstein and colleagues undertook a systematic review and meta-analysis of data from 167 cross-sectional studies (116,628 participants) and 16 longitudinal studies (5728 participants) that assessed depression or depressive symptoms in medical students and 24 cross-sectional studies (21,002 participants) that examined suicidal ideation. The authors report a summary estimate of the prevalence of depression or depressive symptoms among medical students of 27.2% and a summary estimate of the prevalence of suicidal ideation of 11.1%. In an Editorial, Slavin discusses how the culture of medicine may contribute to poor mental health among trainees.
Research (continued)

Learning Environment and Medical Student Well-being 2237
Wasson and colleagues report results of a systematic review of 28 studies (8224 participants) that evaluated the association between undergraduate medical education learning environment interventions and the emotional well-being of students. The authors found that the overall quality of evidence from the examined studies was low. Limited evidence suggested that some specific learning environment interventions—including pass/fail grading systems, mental health programs, mind-body skills programs, wellness programs, curriculum structure, and advising/mentoring programs—were associated with improved emotional well-being among medical students.

LETTERS

Research Letter
2271 Prevalence of Self-disclosed Disability Among Medical Students in US Allopathic Medical Schools
LM Meeks and KR Herzer
2273 Resident Shift Handoff Strategies in US Internal Medicine Residency Programs
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Comment & Response
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Mistreating Medical Students 2263
A respectful team culture is essential for both patient safety and optimal learning by medical students and other trainees. This article by Lucey and colleagues in the JAMA Professionalism series presents the following scenario: a respected faculty member’s teaching style includes questioning students on material that is beyond their educational level, and he often persists with questions and makes sarcastic remarks when it is clear the student cannot provide answers. After observing one such faculty-student exchange, an intern on the team is upset that the student was publicly humiliated. What should the intern do?

Humanities

Poetry and Medicine
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CK Morris

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