

Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Course Series Description

Neonatology Evidence-Based Journal Club

Description:

Neonatology Journal Club consists of a series of multidisciplinary meetings which serve as a forum to discuss emerging practices in neonatology. The forum will support a professional atmosphere in which medical literature will undergo evaluation. The framework by which literature will undergo evaluation will be the principles of evidence-based medicine as presented by Sackett (Evidence-Based Medicine 2nd ed.) and subsequent editions.

The meeting will be held monthly. Attendance will be kept. This will be considered a required meeting within the neonatal-perinatal medicine training program.

To encourage participation and to stress the importance of this topic in neonatal care, CME credits will be given to participants through the CME office at MUSC.

Specific Objectives: Through active participation and presentation in this conference, the participant will:

1. Participate in a professional, open discussion about current, future, and emerging approaches to patient care in neonatal-perinatal medicine.
2. Understand the evaluation of medical literature using structured tools for the evaluation of diagnostic modalities, therapeutic interventions, and the assessment of prognosis.
3. critically appraise topics according to the template developed by Sackett et al. (Evidence-Based Medicine).
4. Demonstrate professionalism through the integration of nurses, nurse practitioners, and others into the evaluation of medical literature and development of clinical practice
5. Perform statistical analysis of clinical studies reviewed
6. Review statistical analysis of bench/investigational studies reviewed

Mechanisms to Achieve Goals:

The trainee will participate in sessions dedicated to reviewing the literature surrounding a specific topic. Participation includes the presentation of materials and the discussion of materials presented by others.

Material presented might include topics under active investigation that might be important in the future to the practice of neonatology (bench/investigational materials), as well as currently available and utilized approaches in neonatology, and emerging approaches in neonatal medicine (clinical material).

Presentations of bench/investigational material will include a discussion of the science underlying the topic and the design of studies reviewed. An emphasis on stage of development will be included.

Presentations of clinical materials will be structured in such a way that the science behind the topic is reviewed (background knowledge, i.e., physiology or pharmacology) and the topic itself is analyzed with regard to standards of evidence-based medicine. Critically assessed topics (CATs) will be developed by the presenters and discussed at meetings.

Competencies:

The meeting will contribute to the development of competency in neonatal-perinatal medicine as described by the ACGME. Specific competencies addressed include:

1. Patient care that is ... appropriate, and effective, including therapy, diagnosis, prognosis, and harm
2. Medical knowledge ...[and] the application of this knowledge to patient care
3. Practice-based learning and improvement ...[through] the appraisal and assimilation of scientific evidence
4. Interpersonal and communication skills
5. Professionalism: including:
 - a. the need to improve practice through structured process of evaluation of emerging literature
 - b. attention to obligations to patients and families through the inclusion of patient preferences in deciding treatment course
 - c. the development of skills needed to rapidly answer clinical questions in a systematic manner when faced with opportunities for medical decision making
 - d. demonstration of a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities

Coordinator:

David Annibale, M.D.

Evaluation:

The coordinator will keep records of topics presented and attendance. The coordinator will perform professionalism evaluations of fellows as part of the 360-degree evaluation process. Additionally, feedback after each session will be collected as required by the CME office.

Reference:

Strauss et al. Evidence-Based Medicine 3rd ed. Elsevier Churchill Livingstone. 2005.