

489: PERSONAL PROFESSIONAL MONITORING & CULTURAL CHANGE

Authors:

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Objective:

To evaluate the possibility of electronic performance data collection and feedback for anaesthetic trainees in Australia & New Zealand.

Methods:

Trainees were provided with Palm hand-held computing devices programmed to collect the requisite data. Data collection was achieved by synchronised downloading to a central PC and website via specially authored software. Data collection was monitored by the ANZCA Supervisors of Training and central data analysis using CUSUM analysis was undertaken by the Geelong Department of Anaesthesia via an application service provider (ASP) model^{1,2,3}. Feedback of analysed results occurred via a secure web site.

Results:

6 1st & 2nd year registrars recruited in 3 centres. Data collected over 4-7 months.

Data Sets Collected 1690; 27% out of hours; 62% level 1 supervision (consultant in theatre).

480 procedures logged for CUSUM.

42 Critical Incidents reported; 2.5% of cases logged. 8 minor sequelae; 14 major sequelae; 1 death.

21 airway incidents; 17 cardiovascular incidents.

19 uneventful ('near miss') critical incidents reported.

Log book, procedure monitoring and trainee supervision functions of the project were all achieved and perceived to be enhanced over traditional methods of assessment. Trainee compliance and acceptability was good with data entry occurring in less than 1 minute. Enthusiasm for the project and the concept of data collection with feedback of results to trainees was demonstrable and continued data collection outside the project time frame has occurred. Hardware and software problems developing within the project have been addressed for continuing and future projects.

Conclusions:

This study demonstrates that Anaesthetic Trainees can be encouraged to collect data on their performance of practical procedures and are enthusiastic to receive performance monitoring data during their trainee years. It is postulated that this represents a rapid cultural change in trainees and could lead to a lifelong commitment to the collection of performance data as Specialist Anaesthetists⁴.