Using a New Smartphone App to Document Milestones and Augment Resident Evaluation

Roger Musa, MD
Keith Werstler, MD

Disclosure

• Roger and Keith are owners of MedEdTrack, LLC and have a financial interest in the company
• The smartphone app that will be demonstrated is for sale by MedEdTrack, LLC
Learning Objectives

1. Discuss the importance of the milestones as a measure of resident competency
2. Identify ideal attributes of a milestone evaluation tool from a faculty perspective
3. Identify ideal attributes of a milestone evaluation tool from a resident perspective
4. Use the app for meaningful resident feedback and milestone documentation

Who are we?

Roger Musa, MD
Program Director

Keith Werstler, MD
Associate Director
Importance of the Milestones For Residents

- Provides national standards to assess and track the development of resident competency
- Provides discreet, observable events to assess resident competency
- Provides a "grading system" to measure the level of attainment a resident has achieved
- All residencies are required to report resident levels of attainment twice yearly

Limitations of the Milestones and Measurement

- Positive events of achievement but may lack formative feedback to improve
- Too many milestones to remember
- Can be unwieldy to document milestones
- Can be a collation nightmare for the CCC
- Does not solve the difficulty of completing the feedback loop to affect resident change
Purpose of Milestones For Programs

• Provide a descriptive roadmap for training
• Increase transparency of performance requirements
• Encourage informed self-assessment and self-directed learning
• Facilitate better feedback to the resident

Purpose of Milestones for Programs

• Guide curriculum and assessment tool development
• Provide meaningful framework for the Clinical Competency Committee (CCC)
• Provide more explicit expectations of residents
• Enhance opportunity for early identification of under-performers
2016 Milestones Annual Report Recommendations

• It is generally better to have a comprehensive "system" of milestone assessment rather than an ad hoc collection of disparate assessment tools
• It appears to be most effective if residents are engaged in the collection of their performance data so they can more readily respond to areas of improvement
• The process needs to be reasonable and easy to do

What qualities would make for an ideal milestone tool from a faculty perspective?
Ideal Evaluation Tool from Faculty Perspective

• Easy and fast
• Tool is always available
• Observations made in real-time
• All milestones are available and recordable
• Tool eliminates the need to memorize milestones
• Provides meaningful narrative for qualitative feedback and provides quantitative data

Ideal Evaluation Tool from Faculty Perspective

• Tool provides meaningful feedback to faculty prior to submission of an observation to eliminate unnecessary work
• Each direct observation feeds a summative milestone "report card" that is always up-to-date
• Valuable, formative feedback can be submitted without credit for a milestone
• Tool automatically completes the feedback loop to the resident
• Provides information about program gaps
What qualities would make for an ideal milestone tool from a **resident** perspective?

**Ideal Evaluation Tool from Resident Perspective**

- Provides immediate quantitative and qualitative feedback
- Always available, fast and convenient
- Can review an up-to-date "report card" and all past observations and feedback
- Can review what milestones are needed to reach the next level of attainment for each sub-competency
Demo

App Lessons Learned

• A milestone search feature was needed to give access to all milestones
• A mechanism was needed to report formative feedback without changing the resident report card
• The program should decide what determines milestone competency (one size does not fit all)
CCC Lessons Learned

- The Milestones app data is the focal point of determining competency
- Evaluation tools that map directly to the Milestones help streamline the process for CCC members, saving work and time
- A tool that provides a Milestone "report card" allows focused resident discussion
- A tool that provides a Milestone "report card" allows faculty to identify program needs and gaps
- Faculty members need occasional reinforcement and encouragement to use the app

Contact Us

Keith Werstler
keith.werstler@aultman.com

Roger Musa
roger.musa@aultman.com
Please...

Complete the session evaluation.

Thank you.