



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

F O U N D A T I O N

Abstract of Study Supported by a Resident Research Grant in 2013

Electronic Medical Record Training Needs for Resident Physicians (G1301RRG)

Principal Investigator: Matthew Swedlund, MD

Mentor: John Beasley, MD, FAAFP

Institution: University of Wisconsin, Department of Family Medicine

Abstract

The rate of adoption of EHRs has been increasing over the last decade due to potential advantages to their use, as well as government initiatives seeking to promote EHR use to improve patient care. The increased adoption of EHRs raises the question of how best to train the physician workforce in their use. Some literature exists describing techniques for training clinicians during the initial implementation of an EHR, but less is available discussing ongoing training for physicians joining a system with an established EHR. This is especially important in the setting of residency programs that by their very nature have an incoming workforce of new residents every year who must be trained in their system's EHR. We seek to survey Family Medicine residents in the state of Wisconsin to evaluate their perceptions of current EHR training and how well it prepares them to safely and efficiently use their EHR. Additionally, we will identify other sources of training that residents seek out to augment their EHR training. We will survey Family Medicine residents in the state of Wisconsin using an online survey instrument that will be developed in consultation with practicing physicians. Endpoints will include resident satisfaction with their preparedness in the domains of efficiency, information gathering, communication with colleagues and communication with patients following their EHR training. Ultimately this data would be used to adapt current EHR training to better meet the needs of Family Medicine residents. Result of this study will be adapted into a presentation to be delivered at a relevant conference (NAPCRG or STFM) and submitted for publication in a peer reviewed journal. Future work could expand the evaluation of training needs in the proposed study to include perceptions of patients, faculty and outside observers such as human factors engineers who might articulate training needs not recognized by resident physicians.