



Kentuckiana Medical Reciprocal Risk Retention Group

KMRRRG

Update from your Professional Liability Carrier-KMRRRG

Newsletter #1 2019



Health Observances

You can access links to obtain more information or download patient education materials for each of the following by [clicking here](#).

February

American Heart Month

International Prenatal Infection
Prevention Month

Low Vision Awareness Month

National Children's Dental Health
Month

Teen Dating Violence Awareness
Month

1 - 7 African Heritage & Health
Week

1 Go Red for Women

4 World Cancer Day

7 - 14 Congenital Heart Defect
Awareness Week

7 National Black HIV/AIDS
Awareness Day

To report a claim, potential claim, or to discuss a risk management matter, contact KMRRRG:

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Surgeons under stress make more mistakes in the operating room, study finds The findings could lead to the development of protocol aimed at reducing acute or short-term stress on surgeons working in the operating room.

By Jeff Lagasse
Healthcare Finance
December 18, 2018

During stressful moments in the operating room, surgeons make up to 66 percent more mistakes on patients, new findings from Columbia University show. And since clinical quality is increasingly tied to reimbursement under the value-based structure, such errors have the potential to eat into an institution's brand reputation and bottom line.

Using a technology that captured the electrical activity of a surgeon's heart, researchers found that during intervals of short-term stress, which can be triggered by a negative thought or a loud noise in the operating room, surgeons are much more prone to make mistakes that can cause bleeding, torn tissue or burns.

The results could lead to the development of protocol aimed at reducing

14 National Donor Day

22 National Heart Valve Disease
Awareness Day

24 - March 02 National Eating
Disorder Screening Program ®

March

Bleeding Disorders Awareness
Month

National Cheerleader Safety Month

National Colorectal Cancer
Awareness Month

National Endometriosis Awareness
Month

National Kidney Month

National Nutrition Month ®

Problem Gambling Awareness
Month

Save Your Vision Month

Trisomy Awareness Month

Workplace Eye Wellness Month

4 - 8 National School Breakfast
Week

10 - 16 Patient Safety Awareness
Week

10 National Women and Girls
HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

11 - 17 Brain Awareness Week

11 - 17 National Sleep Awareness
Week ®

14 World Kidney Day

18 - 24 National Poison Prevention
Week

20 National Native American
HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

24 World Tuberculosis Day

26 American Diabetes Alert Day

acute or short-term stress on surgeons working in the operating room.

IMPACT

Medical errors cause between 250,000-440,000 deaths annually in the U.S., with a sizeable enough chunk of those mistakes occurring in operating rooms. Any change in common practice that reduces the number of mistakes made by surgeons due to stress would also reduce the number of deaths.

The study's lead author, Peter Dupont Grantcharov, is a master's student at the Data Science Institute at Columbia University. A year-and-a-half ago, Grantcharov had the idea to ask Dr. Homero Rivas, associate professor of surgery at Stanford Medical Center, to wear a Hexoskin Smart Shirt under his scrubs while he did surgeries.

The shirt, designed to give athletes precise physiological data during workouts, measures the electrical impulses that trigger heartbeats. From this data, Grantcharov derived heart-rate variability statistics -- the variation in times between heartbeats -- to determine Rivas's momentary stress levels.

Grantcharov was also allowed in the operating room, where he collected laparoscopic video recordings of Rivas as he worked. Another researcher later reviewed the recordings and documented Rivas's mistakes using validated frameworks for assessing surgical performance.

Both his stress levels and surgical errors were time stamped so that Grantcharov could correlate the two. This data yielded the somewhat alarming finding that the effect of short-term stress on surgical error is as high as a 66 percent increase.

THE TREND

A Loyola Medicine study earlier this fall demonstrated that an educational curriculum for physicians in training improves their emotional intelligence, which may help protect against burnout. Before and after completing the educational intervention, doctors took a test measuring their emotional intelligence and significant increases in scores for emotional intelligence, stress management and overall wellness were found at the end.

Teaching emotional intelligence skills "may improve stress management skills, promote wellness and prevent burnout in resident physicians," the researchers wrote.

THEIR TAKE

"I was surprised by that, as well as by the amount of distractions in the operating room," said Grantcharov, who did the study while working as a research assistant at the Stanford Medical Center before enrolling at DSI.

"Many machines have alarms that go off periodically, equipment malfunctions, side conversations take place, people walk in and out of the OR -- I could go on. My hope is that other researchers will build upon our work to make further strides in learning about the causes of stress on surgical personnel. If our study helps make the OR a safer place for patients, I'd be thrilled."

Written by Jeff Lagasse in Healthcare Finance 12/18/2018



U of L Physicians

BRIEFS

AKA “Team Meetings”

Purpose: Strategy for sharing the plan when leading a team. Meetings held for planning purposes

What should be discussed in a Brief:

- Team membership and roles (who is on the team & who is the designated leader)
- Clinical status of the team's patients for the day (condition, diagnosis, plan and status of each patient)
- Team goals (what is to be accomplished and who is to do it)
- Pitfalls and barriers (issues affecting the normal operation of the team-lack of staffing, equipment failure, etc.)



Briefing Checklist Tool

- Conducting a Brief at the beginning of the day provides an ideal forum for communicating with the team
- Using a Brief Checklist tool will help to plan and manage the meeting.

Briefing Checklist	
TOPIC	
Who is on your team today?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
All members understand and agree upon goals?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Roles and responsibilities understood?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Staff availability?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Workload?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Available resources?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Review of the day's patients?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Patient-centered care delivered with compassion and excellence.



TeamSTEPPS: Labor & Delivery Brief Video