

Optimizing Resident Education: Strategies and Evidence

Graham McMahon MD MMSc Dept. of Medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital & Harvard Medical School Residency is an essential dimension of the transformation of the medical student to the independent practitioner along the continuum of medical education.
It is physically, emotionally, and

intellectually demanding, and requires extensive, concentrated effort.



Effective Residency Training Requires...

> Broad and deep clinical exposure
> Progressive responsibility
> Oversight and teaching from more experienced faculty
> A broad curriculum
> Assessment and feedback







Residency Programs in the US and Japan

	US	Japan
Physicians	~820,000	~278,000
PGY 1 Residents	26,218	7,998
Teaching Hospitals	680	1,029
Residency Programs	8,800	1,418



Length of residency training



Medical specialty training

Medical Residency <u>Plus</u>

- > 3 years for
 - Cardiology (4 for subspec)
 - Gastroenterology
 - Pulmonary/critical care
 - Hematology/oncology
- > 1 year for
 - Critical care
 - Geriatric medicine
 - Sports medicine

> 2 years for

- Nephrology
- Endocrinology
- Pulmonary
- Rheumatology
- Infectious disease

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- Oncology
- Hematology

TRENDS IN US RESIDENCY





Number of Residents

International Medical School

Osteopathic Medical School

Canadian Medical School

US Medical School Unknown

Increasing Competition

Applicants and 1st Year Positions in the Match



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Match Rate by Applicant Type



Percent Matches





Relative prevalence of IMGs among physicians in America



Physician Characteristics and Distribution, AMA, 2009ed

Trends in US residencies

> Progressive

- Decline in preferences for primary care (especially family medicine)
- Rise in preferences for dermatology, radiation oncology, and ophthalmology
- These reflect financial and quality of life incentives associated with these fields



Japanese Residency Training Positions

2010	Teaching	University
Hospitals	915	114
Programs	1028	390
Capacity	5570	5122
Matched	4170 (74%)	3828 (74%)
Vacancies	1400	1294
Fraction matching to #1 preference	82%	78%

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Match Rate to Japanese University Programs

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Number	8166	7756	8000	8100	8094	8030	7875	7998
University	72.5	58.8	49.2	44.7	45.3	46.4	46.8	47.9
Unfilled							1035	1294

- Reasons given for choosing teaching programs:
 - Better teaching
 - Less administration

- Reasons given for choosing university programs:
 - Access to postgraduate training

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Reputation

RESIDENCY OVERSIGHT





> ACGME

- Federally funded
- Sets standards
- Issues approvals and citations
- ACGME accreditation necessary for

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- Board certification
- State licensure
- Funding for resident salaries

- > Residency Review Committee
 - Convened by ACGME
 - Sets standards for each type of program
 - Approves size of the program
 - Investigates complaints
 - Formally inspects programs
 - Review of documents
 - Inspection of facilities
 - Interviews with director, faculty and trainees

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Publicly publishes reports

Accreditation Cycle Lengths



BWH

Sponsoring Institution

- Must demonstrate a commitment to education sufficient to support the program
- Provide faculty, facilities, and resources for education, clinical care and research as directed by the program director
- Provide 50% salary support for the program director
- Provide 20% salary support for any associate program directors

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- Program Director
 - One person, board-certified and based at the institution
 - Responsible for establishing and maintaining the educational environment
 - Select residents
 - Select and supervise teaching faculty
 - Ensure balance of service and education
 - Oversee resident evaluation and feedback
 - Implement fair policies and grievance procedures
 - Responsible for periodic formal reports of Garing



> Program Curriculum

- Written document
- Distributed widely
- Lists knowledge skills and other attributes to be attained during each assignment at each level.

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- Lists pedagogy for each competency
- Provides an opportunity for residents to engage in scholarship

- Clinical Exposure
 - At least 33% of training time spent in ambulatory care (108 weekly continuity sessions)
 - Up to 3 months in emergency medicine
 - Adequate exposure to all of the major disciplines of medicine



> Volume

- No more than 5 new pts per admitting day
- No more than 12 pts at any time
- No more than 5 pts in a half-day ambulatory session



Hours

- No more than 80 hrs per week
- No more than 16 hrs per shift for PGY1s
- No more than 24 hrs per shift for others (+4hrs to transfer care)
- On call overnight no more than every 3rd day
- At least one full 24 hrs off per 7 day period



Supervision

- Faculty functioning as supervising physicians should delegate portions of that care to resident physicians
- PGY1 residents must have an attending with them, or at minimum in the building at all times of the day and night
- Senior residents should serve in a supervisory role of junior residents



Differences in Residency Regulation in US and Japan

	US	Japan
Residency completion required for license	✓	✓
Residency programs are inspected	\checkmark	×/√
Work-hour standards are enforced	✓	×
Quality standards are enforced	\checkmark	×
Results are made public and known to applicants	✓	×



WORK HOURS





Variable	Traditional Schedule	Intervention Schedule	P Value
	no. oj (rate/1000		
Serious medical errors made by interns			
Serious medical errors	176 (136.0)	91 (100.1)	<0.001
Preventable adverse events	27 (20.9)	15 (16.5)	0.21
Intercepted serious errors	91 (70.3)	50 (55.0)	0.02
Nonintercepted serious errors	58 (44.8)	26 (28.6)	<0.001
Types of serious medical errors made by interns			
Medication	129 (99.7)	75 (82.5)	0.03
Procedural	11 (8.5)	6 (6.6)	0.34
Diagnostic	24 (18.6)	3 (3.3)	<0.001
Other	12 (9.3)	7 (7.7)	0.47

Landrigan, C. et al. N Engl J Med 2004;351:1838-1848



Mean (+SE) Number of Attentional Failures among the 20 Interns as a Group and Individually while Working Overnight (11 p.m. to 7 a.m.) during the Traditional Schedule and the Intervention Schedule.



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Table 1. Risk of Motor Vehicle Crashes and Near-Miss Incidents after Extended Shifts.*

Variable	Extended Work Shifts (≥24 hr)	Nonextended Work Shifts (<24 hr)
Crashes		
No. reported	58	73
No. of commutes	54,121	180,289
Rate (per 1000 commutes)	1.07	0.40
Odds ratio (95% CI)	2.3 (1.6–3.3)	1.0
Near-miss incidents		
No. reported	1,971	1,156
No. of commutes	54,121	180,289
Rate (per 1000 commutes)	36.42	6.41
Odds ratio (95% CI)	5.9 (5.4–6.3)	1.0

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Barge L. N Engl J Med 2005;352:125-34



Changes in Work and Sleep from 1999 to 2009 by Specialty



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Figure 1. Changes over time in unadjusted mortality for very high severity patients in hospitals of different teaching intensity.

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Volpp K. JGIM 2009; 24 (10): 1149

Readmission Rates over Time



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Press MJ. JGIM 2010 online first



Q J Med 2010; 103:929–940

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STRATEGIES FOR TEACHERS





Key Principles of Effective Clinical Education

- Let the trainee decide what to do before correcting them
- Think out loud
- > Teach with patients
- Encourage trainees; avoid embarrassment
- > Don't lecture: use Q&A
- Make time for feedback



> "To study the phenomenon of disease without books is to sail an uncharted sea, while to study books without patients is not to go to sea at all" • Osler, 1903

:168

Advantages of Bedside Teaching

> Adult learning principles Active involvement Relevant, meaningful Patients like it Motivates learners Important domains of learning integrated through teaching, role modeling & observation with feedback



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Preferences for Bedside Presentations



J Gen Intern Med. 1989 Jul-Aug;4(4):284-7

Patients' Reactions

- > 86% : it increased my understanding of my medical problems,
- > 77%: I enjoyed it (only 17% did not)
- > 83%: It did not make me anxious,
- > 85% I do not think that bedside teaching breaches confidentiality

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> 84%: I would recommend bedside teaching to other patients.

Neir, Medical Education 1997; 31:341-346

Perceptions of Residents and their Attendings

- Residents want more time at the bedside with faculty (94%)
- Attendings want to make bedside teaching a priority (78% vs. 22%)
- > Attendings lack confidence in bedside teaching (33%), esp in physical exam (50%), and few have been trained (33%)

J Hosp Med 2009 May;4(5):304-7.

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THE CLINICAL IMPACT OF TRAINING CHANGES: ONE EXPERIMENT



Background

Extended resident work hours and increased on-call workload have been associated with

- fatigue-related errors,
- resident dissatisfaction, and
- reduced participation in educational activities

We hypothesized that changing resident workload and supervision within established duty-hour limits could improve care quality.



RESIDENT DUTY HOURS

STATISTIC MARTIN

IOM Report

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Redesigning Our Teams

Focus Groups with Residents

Key themes: Workload, Continuity, Relationships

Inclusive Redesign Committee

Hospital Funding & Metric Selection

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Daily Schedule

- > 7:30-9:30am
- > 9:30-10:30am
- > 10:30-12noon
- ▶ 12-1pm
- > 1-2pm
- > 3-4pm
- > 4-4:30pm

Team Work Rounds Morning Report Pt care/enhanced education Resident led teaching Pt care/enhanced education Attending led teaching Radiology Rounds

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On-call schedule

Interns

 On call overnight every 6th night

 Residents

 On call until 10pm every 4th night
 Overnight coverage by night resident



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Team Differences

	ITU	GMS (control)
Team Structure	2 residents 3 interns	1 resident 2 interns
Supervision	2 co-attgs present on site	Multiple care attgs Variable contact
Workload	Max census of 15 pts (~4-5 pts per intern)	Max census per ACGME limits (~6-8 pts per intern)



Team Similarities

- > All teams on one hospital floor
- Same nurses and other professionals
- Same residents rotated through each team
- > Duty hours similar
- > Attendings included hospitalists, generalists, and subspecialty attendings

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Trial Schema



Outcomes: •Patient mortality •Length of stay •Readmission rate •Resident activity •D/c summary quality •Attending, resident and patient satisfaction





Resident Activity

ITU residents spent much more of their time in educational activities than GMS residents

	ITU	GMS
Direct Patient Care	12%	18%
Indirect Patient Care	36%	44%
Education**	29%	7%
Transitions of care	6%	11%
Other	17%	20%

**P=0.003

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Resident Survey Data

	ITU	GMS	P-value	
Number of Residents Returning surveys	98	62		
Number of Surveys	104	62		
I agree with this statement (mean % agreement):	I agree with this statement (mean % agreement):			
I enjoyed the rotation	77.9	54.8	0.002	
This rotation was closest to an ideal residency experience	41.4	6.4	<.0001	
I had more follow-up than usual	22.1	8.1	0.02	
I learned new physical exam skills	77.9	30.6	<.0001	
I received feedback from my attending	85.6	30.6	<.0001	
I learned a lot from this activity this month (mean % agreement)				
Morning report	95.1	58.3	<.0001	
My attendings on rounds	83.6	66.1	0.009	
Preparing teaching topics	78.9	74.4	0.59	
Resident-led didactics	-80.0	44.1	<.0001	



Quality of Discharge Summaries Blinded evaluation of 142 random discharge summaries



-raction of reports with all the required elements

	ITU	GMS	p-value	
Number of Patients	1892	2096		
% Female	58.0%	60.0%	0.13	
Race Category				
White	78.0%	80.7%	0.11	
African-American	14.1%	13.3%		
Hispanic	4.9%	3.8%		
All Others Declared	3.0%	2.2%		
Mean age (sd)	68.9 (17.6)	69.6 (17.2)	0.22	
Insurance			0.29	
Private	37.7%	39.6%		
Medicare	32.3%	33.2%		
Medicaid	25.9%	23.5%		
No insurance	4.0%	3.7%		
Diagnosis Category			0.1	
Cardiovascular	17.2%	15.1%		
Pulmonary	15.8%	15.0%		
Gastronenterology	12.7%	15.2%		
Renal	8.3%	7.3%		
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Primary Results

	ITU	GMS	P-value
Discharge Volume (number of patients)	1892	2096	
Mean daily census per first-year resident	3.5	6.6	
In-patient mortality (%)	1.4	2.2	0.04
Expected mortality (%)	1.7	1.7	
O/E Mortality Ratio	0.79	1.26	<.0001
Average LOS (mean days [se])	4.1 (.09)	4.6 (.10)	0.0002
Expected LOS (mean days)	4.0	4.0	
O/E LOS Ratio	1.03	1.15	<.0001
Readmissions within 30 days (%)	6.9	8.0	0.19

*O/E = observed to expected; LOS = length of stay

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Experimental Conclusions

- As compared to a typical inpatient care model, reduced intern workload within a restructured team model was associated with
 - significantly increased time for educational activities
 - significantly lower inpatient mortality and length of stay,
 - significantly higher attending and resident satisfaction
- Investment in trainees results in higher quality of care



Conclusions 1

- Residency training is complex for administrators and challenging for residents
- Residents professional commitment to their patients will naturally take precedence over educational imperatives
- Programs must structure their programs so that residents have time to learn
 - Appropriate workhour and workload limits
 - Supervision and feedback
- Attention to educational quality improves care quality and patient outcomes

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Conclusions 2

If quality of GME is to improve in Japan

- Quality standards must be further developed (workload, work hours, teaching, supervision)
- Additional independent assessment of programs is necessary
- Adherence to standards must be measured and reported
- Failure to meet standards must have consequences
- Reports must be published, accessible to applicants
- Teaching skills must be developed

Improved GME quality will improve patient care quality and outcomes

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