The Residency CPC as a Means of Faculty Development

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Background:
Faculty development (FD) is a continuous process that is required of Emergency Medicine (EM) Residencies.1 Multiple universities and national EM associations provide on-line or conference-based resources to facilitate FD. However, most FD requires resources and support best found within the home institution, and a survey of junior faculty identified lecture development and mentorship as self-perceived career development needs.2

Objectives:
To determine the utility of a Clinical Pathologic Case (CPC) Competition as a means of FD.

Methods:
The CPC involves faculty discussion in a lecture format of the process by which a diagnosis is reached, rather than on the actual diagnosis of, an unknown case presented.3 Senior faculty provided lecture development mentorship. Immediate feedback by senior faculty after the CPC was facilitated with standard evaluation forms (Figures 1 and 2). Support for presentation at state and national competitions was provided by the Department of EM Chair or Residency Program.

Results:
Lehigh Valley Health Network has a dually approved PGY 1 through 4 EM Residency with 14 residents per year and 20 Program Information Form (PIF) designated academic faculty. Each resident submits a case and eight are selected for discussion. The other cases are designated for submission as Case Reports. The top three faculty discussants are selected for external state and national CPC’s. Awards include four “Best Faculty” in nine years at the state level and three “National Runner-Up” awards in 17 entries at ACEP and ACOEP.

Conclusions:
Using external faculty discussant awards as a measure of success, a mentored CPC competition with feedback can serve as a means of FD.

References:

Figure 1: LVHN-CPC Presenter Judging Form

Figure 2: LVHN-CPC Discussant Judging Form