

Department of Family Medicine Minutes

September 9, 2022

Attendees: Lourdes Ada, MD; Ashley Adams, RN; Danielle Dolan, RN; Amy Foote, RN; Christen Fragala, MD; Malina Holmes, MD; Raymond Lewis, MD; Emelyn Molato, MD; Sangita Pillai, MD; John Ragucci, MD

I. Call to Order

Dr. Fragala called the meeting to order at 8:04am.

II. Review of Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted as written.

III. Old Business

None at this time.

IV. New Business

Dr. Fragala reports that it is time for the election for Chief of the department. She asked if anyone else is interested in being Chief to please email her and let her know. There was no one else interested at the time of the meeting. Dr. Fragala noted that an email will be sent out for members of the department to cast their vote on 9/13. In addition, Malina Holmes, MD has joined Merrimack Valley Family Medicine and will be working with OB.

V. Committee Reports

1. Medical Executive Committee

No updates at this time.

2. Labor and Delivery Committee

Ms. Dolan, the manager of Labor and Delivery, joined the meeting today to introduce herself as well as to introduce the manager of Pediatrics, Amy Foote. In addition, Ms. Dolan shared that L&D will be trialing the Jada system for postpartum hemorrhage. This system is already being used at Melrose Wakefield and Tufts Hospitals.

Dr. Lewis posed a question to Ms. Foote in regards to scheduling outpatient pediatric circumcision. Ms. Foote shared the best way to schedule these appointments is to call the unit directly and speak with the charge nurse. The charge nurse will then call the patient to schedule the procedure. Although referrals can be made in EPIC, there are still some difficulties.

3. Cancer Committee

No updates at this time.

4. Credentials Committee



No updates at this time.

5. Infection Control

No updates at this time.

6. Morbidity and Mortality Council

Dr. Pillai gave an update of the Morbidity and Mortality Council. At the last meeting, a case was discussed of a patient admitted with a GI bleed who had a difficult airway.

The patient underwent an endoscopic procedure and anesthesia noted the patient had a small and difficult airway during intubation and required a pediatric sized ETT. Later during the patient's admission, the patient required a rapid response and again providers encountered difficulty while trying to intubate this patient. Though there was documentation in the Anesthesia notes, there was no other way in EPIC to document this to alert providers and thus there was a delay in intubation with this patient. This case sparked discussion around EPIC documentation and how we can create a field for this information to prevent such occurrences in the future.

7. Perinatal Committee

No updates at this time.

8. MCH Updates

No updates at this time.

9. DEI Update

Dr. Lewis provided a DEI update. This month is Hispanic Heritage Month. There are several events planned in honor of this month including Hispanic Heritage featured foods in the cafeteria. There will be a Fireside Chat with Mike Dandorph and a panelist group of Hispanic colleagues from throughout the organization. In addition, Dr. Lewis shared that the DEI Committee is always looking for physician volunteers for anyone who is interested in joining.

Dr. Pillai shared an update on the mentorship program. The application process has wrapped up showing a lot of mentee interest. The program is still looking for mentor volunteers. The commitment would involve either an in person or virtual meeting for 1 hour a month for 8 months, October through May.

VI. Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20am.

Next Meeting

Next meeting will occur on October 14, 2022

Respectfully submitted,



Ashley Adams

Ashley Adams, BSN, RN
Quality Improvement Specialist

Approved:

Christen Fragala, MD
Chief, Department of Family Medicine

9/19/2022

Date

Date

