

The Guiding Ray: The Grand Rapids Radiology Residency Newsletter

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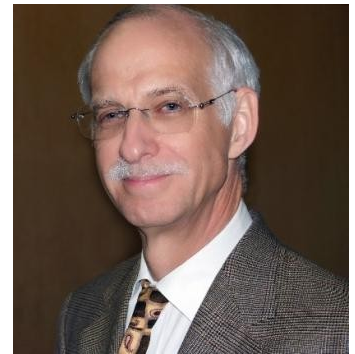
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A Word from the Program Director

Jay Harolds, Radiology Residency Director

With today's complex challenges in health care, it is important that the residents get training not only in radiology per se, but also in communications skills, negotiations, teams, the business of radiology, quality improvement, leadership, etc. This is also a requirement of the ACGME. Conferences on all of these topics will occur this academic year. Some of these are presented on Friday at noon and are available for Category 1 credit. In February the instruction will include some role playing interactions which will be recorded on video, and critiqued. In the future, the ACR leadership Institute, now being developed, will offer courses to residents and faculty on business and leadership topics.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with any of the faculty individually or the faculty sections together to discuss any questions, suggestions, or criticisms you have regarding the residency.



Honoring Faculty



I want to thank Dr. Mark Delano for his work as the educational director of neuroradiology, and for his work in promoting teaching and research.



I want to thank Dr. Michael Votruba for the excellent job he does as associate radiology residency director. He is responsible for seeing that the teaching at St. Mary's remains at a high standard, and gives multiple lectures at Butterworth on musculoskeletal subjects.

Ethics and Professionalism

Part of medical ethics is figuring out how to allocate scarce resources. In medical school I studied various case scenarios such as, if there were limited resources for dialysis treatments, should one dialyze a 30 year old unemployed man with a wife and 4 children, or should one dialyze a 60 year old bachelor who just won a Nobel Prize in Economics? As it turned out, society and the government were not capable of making such decisions at that time, and dialysis was provided for a large number of people. However, in the future, rationing in some form is likely. For example, should we perform a liver transplant on a young woman who suffered from alcoholism although she has gone to a rehabilitation program, or should we perform a liver transplant on an older individual who went into liver failure for other reasons? Another topic in the news is about so called “death panels”, where medical personnel are reimbursed for giving counseling near the end of life.

Another hot topic in medical ethics is whether a physician should disclose his or her errors to a patient. There are some institutions that have this as policy, although some lawyers caution against it. Another issue in medical ethics is how to respond to a colleague who is acting in an unprofessional manner. This involves how the observing physician is to respond, and also how the institution and medical community are to act. It is because of such dilemmas, that the residents have received lectures on professionalism and ethics, and will have several discussion conferences on these topics. The study of professionalism is a requirement of the ACGME.

Conferences

The ACGME requires a core series of 100 lectures be given every 2 years in radiology. The lecture subjects are chosen by the educational director for that field. Once every 9-10 weeks, each director is given the choice of Monday, Tuesday, and/or Wednesday at 7 am and/or noon, for the faculty in his or her section to give 2 conferences. The conferences typically fall into one of three categories. The first is a lecture, the second is a case conference on a specific topic with a mini lecture (not necessarily in Power Point), and the third is a case conference on a variety of subjects. One of the two conferences given that week should be in one of the first two categories, and following the outline of subjects given by the educational director. The second conference that week can be in any of the three formats and on any topic or topics in the subspecialty area. The conference schedule lists the weeks of each section through June, and was given to the educational directors months ago. Trades between lecturers in each field between the weeks are fine. If possible, the Program Coordinator should be notified of the conference times and subjects a few weeks in advance. In some subject areas, the majority of the conferences are given by the educational directors. Additional help for them would be great. Volunteers for additional case conferences beyond the required ones are also sought. I greatly appreciate the time given to prepare these presentations. It is recognized that preparation for these conferences often involves a considerable sacrifice of time away from one’s family.



Residency Interviews

The interviews have now been completed. We had a stellar group of prospective residents, and I appreciate the help of all those faculty and residents who helped. In the end, we interviewed 18 AOA applicants. Surprisingly, however, the literature indicates that how well a resident does in a program does not depend on their class rank, dean's letter, general recommendation letters, number of papers, interviews or national



board scores. Indeed, one paper showed a slight negative correlation with national board scores and how well they did. The reason for this may be that all the applicants are very bright, and other factors such as marriage, divorce, children, etc. play a big role. Also, radiology is quite different than most of what they studied in medical school. Nevertheless, we do what everyone else does and rank the applicants according to their academic record, recommendations and interviews. The residents are also invited to give comments about their interactions with the applicants, and this feedback is also taken into account in the final ranking of resident applicants.

MSU Medical Student Interest Group

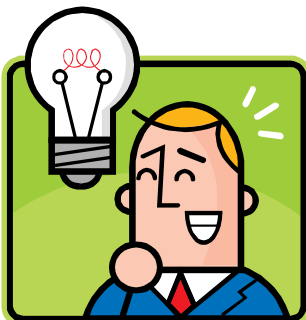
On Tuesday, January 25, 2011, we had our first ever radiology student interest group session at the Secchia Center. Dr. Rekha Meesa gave an excellent lecture and I spoke about radiology as a career and a little about the competitiveness of getting into a radiology residency program. GRMEP paid for pizza for the medical students.



Journal Club Meetings

We are having a number of journal club meetings in the evening at a restaurant since many faculty say they are too busy to attend meetings during the day. We have applied for Category 1 credit for these sessions, and anticipate this will be approved in a couple of months.

Suggestions Needed



Suggestions are wanted for

- Improving evaluations for residents, faculty, rotations, or the program.
- Ideas on how to improve evaluations for residents, faculty, rotations, or the program as a whole.
- Improving this Newsletter.
- Improving communications in other ways.

Please contact Dr. Harolds with your input

Faculty Evaluations

The ACGME requires that the residency director evaluate the academic contribution of each member of the faculty at least annually. This could include topics such as teaching at the PACS station, mentoring, conferences, research, presentations outside this metropolitan area, interviewing residency candidates, participation at journal club meetings, and administrative contributions. I am working on this now. Please make sure your CV's are up to date for this purpose, and also for our upcoming ACGME site visit.



One technique that has been recommended for each faculty member is for him or her to analyze their own contributions to the residency and what they did that was great, and areas where improvement might be indicated. I would be happy to sit down with any faculty member to discuss this in person or by e-mail, and it will only reflect positively on you. If anyone wants to be involved in research or get tips on power point, that can be arranged. If anyone would like to contribute more to the residency, please let me know. I appreciate everyone's contribution.

Faculty Development

The Grand Rapids Medical Education Partners Graduate Medical Educational Committee has created a subset of members to participate in a Faculty Development Committee. Over the past few months, this committee has used the ACGME requirements as the basis for drafting faculty development participation expectations for faculty who teach in GRMEP residencies and fellowships. The Radiology Program created a document that outlines faculty development domains, goals for each domain, and potential activities to fulfill goals. We recognize that there are a lot of questions regarding this ACGME requirement so the goal was to give you examples to see that a number of activities that you are already doing are indeed faculty development. In upcoming newsletters, we will highlight each domain. First is the Clinical Practice Expertise domain of Faculty Development. The goal of this domain is to fulfill expectations for Continuing Medical Education (CME) for maintenance of certification. Activity options and resource suggestions are listed below:

Activity Options	Resource Suggestions
Local, regional, national and international CME programs in Radiology or Nuclear Medicine. Maintain board certification in Radiology or Nuclear Medicine.	Specialty and board review courses, for example: http://www.acponline.org/education_recertification/recordings/board_review/ Appropriateness criteria, guidelines and standards on ACR.org Local, regional, national and international CME programs

Additional domains will be shared in further editions of this newsletter. Also a full listing will be shared with all faculty members via email. Please let Dr. Harolds know if you have suggestions.

Featured Residents

We are privileged to have outstanding radiology residents here. In each Newsletter, we will feature some biographical sketches of several residents. In this issue, we will feature our second year radiology residents, so that those who have not yet had a rotation with them, can get to know them better.



Rekha Meesa, MD was born in India and her family immigrated to US when she was 9 years old. She grew up in the suburbs of Chicago and met her husband, Sudheer, when she was a senior in high school. Rekha went to Loyola University for undergraduate education. While working as a software engineer, she earned a Masters Degree in Computer Information Systems. After her husband completed his fellowship in Pulmonary/Critical Care and Sleep Medicine at Cook County/Rush program in Chicago, they moved to Ft. Wayne, Indiana. In Indiana, she decided to go to medical school and graduated from Indiana University School of Medicine in 2007. Rekha shares: "I have two beautiful and smart children. My son, Akash is 10 years old, and my daughter, Priya is 9 years old. We hope to get a puppy this summer! My kids would like to name him "Fudge"! I love to travel, run, shop, cook, and host parties. I also enjoy writing papers, developing computer software, and research." Rekha will be doing a fellowship in Pediatric Radiology at the University of Michigan in 2012.



Eric Payne, MD

Eric is married and has two sons ages 4 and 2. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his family. Eric says "The last few months have consisted of a great deal of time watching my two year old dance to the Wii video game "Just Dance", which I must say never gets old. He is a big fan of the song "Who Let The Dogs Out." At this point I don't see a future as a music critic for him, but his dancing skills are quite good. He must get it from his mom. I am a sports enthusiast and avid Michigan State and Detroit sports fan. Go Green! I also like tinkering around the house and reading about U.S. history."

Andy Olsen, MD



Andy Olsen grew up in Orem, Utah right next to Brigham Young University. During high school and college Andy did a lot of mountain biking and skiing in the Utah mountains and loves being outdoors. After high school he lived in Eastern Germany for two years on a church mission. He graduated from BYU Andy and then went to Medical School at Ohio State University. He met his wife, Jessica at work while at BYU and they have been married for 10 years. He has two boys, Isaac (8), and Seth (4) and a newborn baby girl, Kate. When he is not working he loves running and spending time with his family. Andy also loves reading and collecting books. He basically lumps his hobbies together by listening to Audiobooks while running. Lately a lot of his free time is spent playing basketball with his boys or watching their games.

