Resident Independent Rounds: how do families perceive team communication?
Grace Huh, MD, Alexandra Sawyer, MD, MPH, Kelsey Iguidbashian, MD, Tristan Dear, MD, Savannah Brackman, MD, Leonard B. Seltz, MD
Department of Pediatrics, Children’s Hospital Colorado/University of Colorado

Background

• Resident independent rounds are family-centered rounds that are conducted without the attending physician.
• This is a model used by inpatient teaching teams to increase resident autonomy.
• Weekly resident independent rounds were implemented in July 2020 at our institution.
• Though educational benefits have been described, its impact on family perception of team communication has not been explored.

Objective

To compare family perception of team communication between resident independent rounds and traditional rounds at an academic children’s hospital

Methods

• We conducted a 5-question paper survey using a 4-point Likert scale, modified from the Pediatric Inpatient Experience Survey, focusing on team communication during rounds (Figure 1).
• Surveys were administered 2 days/week to a convenience sample of families of children admitted to hospital medicine services from September to December 2020.

Results

Survey results from families who experienced resident independent rounds were compared to those who experienced traditional rounds.

Mean Likert scores from families who experienced the two rounding structures were compared with the paired (Figure 3) or independent t-test.

Conclusions

• Team communication with both rounding models was positive.
• Rounding without the attending did not negatively impact family perception of team communication compared to traditional rounds.

Implications

• Concern may arise that resident independent rounds may negatively impact team communication with families, one of the benefits of family-centered rounds. Our study, showing that family perceptions of team communication is similar with both rounding models, may lessen this concern.
• Similar family perceptions of team communication further supports implementing resident independent rounds to increase resident autonomy.
• Further work is needed to evaluate attending physicians, nurses, and learners’ perspectives of this hybrid rounding model.

Disclosures

I have no financial interests or relationships to disclose.