

Applied Learning Project

Developing Curriculum for Epilepsy

PING LI, MD

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO



Description

To Improve neurology resident ability taking care of patients with epilepsy

To Improve resident performance in in-service exam

To Improve resident performance in neurology board

Objectives

1. identify the weakness of residents in taking care of patients with epilepsy
2. develop epilepsy curriculum
3. measure the performance of residents in-service score in epilepsy before and after the new curriculum

Key components – Who

Residents from different PGY levels

Epilepsy Fellows

Faculty specialized in epilepsy

Residency program director and associate program director

Chief residents, especially the one responsible for the didactic lectures

Key components – What

List of weak and strong areas based on previous in-service exam

Discuss with the committee members to build the curriculum

Follow the curriculum

Reassess the weak areas based on the in-service exam after following the curriculum

Key components – How

Formality

- Lectures
- Small group discussions
- Question banks

Who will give the lectures

- Epileptologists
- Epilepsy fellow
- Neurology residents
- Outside speakers

Discuss with the committee members to build the curriculum

Small group meetings

committee meetings

List of weak areas based on previous in-service exam

Clinical treatment for PGY3 and PGY4 residents

Mechanism of disease for PGY2 residents

List of strong areas based on previous in-service exam

Diagnostic procedures for all PGY levels

Neuropathology for PGY 3 and PGY4

Discuss with the committee members to build the curriculum

Identify potential issues

- Limited time
 - Lectures are given Thursday and Friday mornings
 - Need to cover all sub-specialties
 - materials residents can use on their own time, such as video recordings, question banks
- Most of the speakers focus on newer/recent topics

Discuss with the committee members to build the curriculum

Utilize the current available series

- QA
- Journal club
- M & M
- Epilepsy Surgery Conference

What are available?

Reach out to other programs

Use AAN, AES website

- Seizure semiology
- Electroclinical syndromes
- Special populations
- Comorbidities
- EEG
- Management
- Surgery
- advocacy

Reassess the weak areas based on the in-service exam after following the curriculum

In-service exam in Feb. each year

The curriculum can be improved each year after the exam

Survey after annual in-service exam

List of weak areas

List of strong areas

Levels of training

Beyond the test

Clinical performance

- Critically ill patients – patients with status epilepticus
- Outpatient with epilepsy
- Special populations – women with epilepsy

Challenges

Balance basic and advanced topics

Different needs for different PGY levels

Limited time slots for lectures

Impact

To help epilepsy fellow practice teaching

To help neurology residents better prepare Neurology board

To help other sub-specialty boards develop teaching curriculum

To help develop student clerkship education curriculum

Thoughts and Reflections

Work as a team with people with different needs and at different levels

Participate in curriculum development in national level