Operation “Grey Doc”: Using Retired Vascular Surgeons to Train Residents

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Introduction
• Current training paradigm mandates rapid acceleration in technical proficiency
  – 0-5 Integrated Residency
  – Fellows with less operative experience in general surgery
• Increased simulation training
  – Incorporated in every training program
  – Issues arise as to who has the time to effectively teach these sessions

Surgeon-Educators
• Barriers to teaching
  – Increase demands on clinical productivity
  – Research obligations
  – EHR issues
  – Location of simulation center often not conducive to clinical responsibilities

Opportunities
• Retired surgeons
• 18,000 retired surgeon members in the ACS
• Most live in proximity to hospitals with training programs
• Often seek out teaching opportunities

UW Retired Surgeon
• Dr. John Arthur
  – Retired surgeon from Bremerton, WA
  – 2012 ACS meeting in Chicago
  – Approached our Division Chief, Dr. Ben Starnes
  – “Do you have anything a retired vascular can do?”
**Creation of Curriculum**

- Two days/week
- **Wednesday**
  - Chapter review with the residents and program director
  - Skills review with our PGY-1 and PGY-2 for 1.5 hours twice a month
- **Friday**
  - Open training, exposures, VSIG training
  - Once month industry product simulation and IFU review

**Cadaver Curriculum**

- December
  - Cadaver dissection week
  - Coordinating procedure-based dissection
  - Scheduling the faculty members for mock procedures

**Didactics and Instrument Review**

- One Friday/month
- Industry product review
- Simulator and IFU review

**Coordinating Industry IFU Review**

- Annual event in our simulation center
- Preop white board session
- Procedure with residents
- Students serving as assistants

**Anatomy and Instrument Review**

- Vascular Surgery Interest Group (VSIG)
  - Anatomy Review
  - Suture Lab
  - Instrument Review
  - Function as a scrub tech for cadaver dissection

**Cadaver Lab Week**

- Cadaver dissection week
- Coordinating procedure-based dissection
- Scheduling the faculty members for mock procedures
Pre-procedure Review

Coordinating the Session

Procedure-based Learning

Five-year Experience
- Led to consistent simulation training
  - Faculty are available but now it happens as scheduled!
- Increased involvement of medical students
  - VSIG number growing via word of mouth
- Improved technical skills of trainees
  - Correction of habits noted in the OR

Additional Recruitment to the Grey Doc Team
Operation Grey Doc

- Opportunity to engage enthusiastic teachers
- Utilize a resource with a wealth of experience
- Share their experiences with residents/students
- Allows this great group a chance to further impart their wisdom on the next generation