Origins of an IHI Open School Chapter: Experiences from Winthrop-University Hospital

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Winthrop-University Hospital is an independent academic medical center located in Mineola, NY with a long history of history of educational programs at all levels of the medical education continuum. As the clinical campus site of Stony Brook University School of Medicine, approximately 80 Stony Brook third and fourth year medical students complete their clinical clerkships and electives at Winthrop. In addition, there are 23 accredited residency and fellowship programs at Winthrop-University Hospital with more than 225 residents currently in training.

Chapter Overview

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Chapter Timeline

A brief overview of the development process of our chapter:

**Setting the stage**
The inspiration for our chapter arose from participation in the American College of Physicians High Value, Cost Conscious Care Initiative presented by the Department of Medicine’s Center for High Value Medicine (CHVM).

The course introduced Internal Medicine residents to concepts of high value care, wasteful expenditure, and strategies to bring high value care into daily practice. Upon completion, residents were encouraged to develop cost conscious and quality improvement projects.

A central theme that piqued interest was the role that residents, teaching attendings and teaching hospitals play in generating waste. This question has served as the catalyst for the creation of our IHI chapter.

This year the course was expanded to include medical students which has greatly propelled our momentum forward.

**Early beginnings**
To examine the effects of graduate medical education on wasteful resource utilization, our residents compared the frequency of Protein C testing in the setting of acute stroke or DVT/PE between teaching (medical resident) and non-teaching (PA/NP) service teams, as current guidelines define Protein C testing in the context of acute CVA or DVT/PE to be inappropriate.

Inappropriate ordering of Protein C was prevalent in both teaching and nonteaching service teams, but teaching service teams were significantly less likely to order inappropriate tests.

These findings spurred the medical students to explore their role in unnecessary spending by investigating whether students were present on the teaching teams when protein C testing was ordered and when it was not.

**Current initiatives**
To provide additional structure for our educational and research initiatives relating to cost effective care and quality improvement, we decided to start an IHI Open School chapter.

We felt being a part of national & international movement in the areas of quality improvement and high value care will provide us with great support and resources.

We are currently moving forward with our medical student and unnecessary testing project. We hope that the findings will provide an even greater understanding of the role medical education may (or may not) play in wasteful spending.

**Future direction**
As a brand new chapter, future plans will focus on educating the larger medical student and resident bodies about our purpose and mission.

Our goal will be to increase member enrollment while providing overviews of quality improvement and high value care as areas of study and initiative.

In addition, we aim to incorporate online IHI Open School curricula into medical student and resident education modules.

We will also seek to establish formalized relationships with Winthrop’s adult and pediatric QI departments to foster collaborative educational efforts.

Current Members

Our medical student members include:
- Renee Barlev
- Jennifer Brazier
- Jafeen Ilmudeen
- Jessica Mounessa
- Oluwadamilola Oladuru
- Lisa Wang

Contact Us!

We strongly welcome your comments, suggestions, or ideas for collaboration!

Feel free to contact us at:
- ihiopenschool.winthrop@gmail.com
- jfeldman1@winthrop.org

Faculty Advisor

Dr. Jonah Feldman is Firm Chief and Associate Program Director for the Department of Medicine, and Director of the Center for High Value Medicine and Health Delivery Innovation at Winthrop University Hospital, a Clinical Campus of Stony Brook School of Medicine. The Center for High Value Medicine & Healthcare Delivery Innovation (CHVM) seeks to leverage the strength of academic medicine in order to position clinicians to provide the best possible care to their patients, while at the same time reducing unnecessary costs to the health care system. CHVM was created to help establish a network of healthcare innovators to share and spread expertise and best practices, with the goal of advancing the science of health delivery within, and beyond the Winthrop Health System. Dr. Feldman serves nationally on the Society for General Internal Medicine Education Committee and has been appointed to the Patient Centered Medical Home and Accountable Care Organization Task Force for NHQPC. Dr. Feldman was selected by the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine to participate in its Executive Leadership Training Program in Cambridge, and was an ACP Leadership Day Grant recipient. He has been a featured speaker at the 2014 New York Annual Scientific Meeting for ACP, and will be giving the keynote address at the 2015 NHQPC Medical Student Forum on the topic of High Value Care.