

Trauma Conference

Why: To discuss a variety of different traumatic presentations in order to gain familiarity with the management of both common and uncommon types of trauma

Format:

- The allotted time for the trauma conference is 1 hour.
- The case discussion should take about 15-20 minutes
- Each time a crucial decision-point was made in the case, pause and ask the audience what they would have done before revealing what actually occurred. Build this into your slides.
- Mention should be made of the OR / inpatient course.

You will be responsible for a literature search on one question relevant to the case. This question will be assigned by Dr. Weingart. **You will not formally present on this topic**; instead you will field questions from Dr. Weingart and the audience on this topic.

Do not make a "Powerpoint"-style slide presentation on the case. Only use slides if there is a relevant diagram or image from the case. Your efforts should be directed toward creating an evidentiary table as a word document. Print out a copy for yourself and email a copy to Dr. Weingart and the academic chief. A sample evidentiary table can be found at: www.ehced.org/Misc/evitable.doc.

How to find a case: You are responsible for finding an interesting or elucidative trauma case and then vetting this case with Dr. Weingart. The first step is to check with Dr. Weingart to see if he has any cases he wants presented. If not, check with the academic chief resident and the Elmhurst QA committee. It is your responsibility to find a case and confirm it is acceptable with Dr. Weingart one month prior to presentation.

When to start: At least 1 month prior to your scheduled presentation date

What to include: Include the history, vital signs, physical exam, labs, x-rays, CT scans, EKGs, and consultant opinions as they were obtained during in the patient's course. You should obtain the relevant images for x-rays, EKGs, and CTs for display in your presentation. Remember that to construct the case for the audience, it is crucial to chart a time course so that the case can be followed as it evolves over minutes to hours.

When to finish: At least 1 week prior to your scheduled presentation date you must submit your powerpoint and evidentiary table to Dr. Weingart and the academic chief resident

Presentation Tips:

- Start early. Be prepared. Be on time.
- Know the case well, especially the timeline. The case presentation will be discussion-driven, without slides to refer to. Bring notes and know the ED timeline and test results thoroughly.
- Speak with the involved residents, attendings, trauma surgeons, and consultants so that you know their thought process.
- Ask for help early if you need guidance
- Practice your presentation

Suggested Checklist / Timeline for Case-Based Conferences (M&M, Interesting Case, Trauma, and Joint Conferences)

- Start Early. Be proactive in finding a case.
- 1 month before: Contact the academic chief resident with help in obtaining a case
- 1 month before: After obtaining the case, start to research via IBEX / EDR or A4 / Mysis
- 1 month before: Speak with the residents & attendings involved to supplement chart history
- 3 weeks before: Start to think about how to structure presentation. Contact any co-presenters
- 3 weeks before: Begin working on presentation (this gives you two full weeks to work on it!)
- 3 weeks before: Consult with your faculty mentor or academic chief if you need guidance
- 1 week before: Finalize presentation
- 1 week before: Email completed presentation to academic chief resident
- 1 week before: Be sure to personally invite the involved clinicians to your presentation
- 1 day before: Rest / Relax / Sleep
- Day of: Be on time! Stay calm. You'll do fine.