



CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

GRAND ROUNDS
Thursday, November 2, 2006, 12:00 Noon
Clinic Auditorium

J. Larry Klein, MD
Professor of Medicine and Radiology
Division of Cardiology

The future present of cardiac imaging: Update on Cardiac CT and MRI

FYI

- The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is accepting applications for its five Loan Repayment Programs (LRPs) for Fiscal Year 2007. Through these programs, the NIH offers to repay up to \$35,000 annually of the qualified educational debt of health professionals pursuing careers in biomedical and behavioral research. The programs also provide coverage for federal and state tax liabilities. All applications for 2007 awards must be submitted online by 8:00 p.m. EST, December 1, 2006. For an online application, program information, or other assistance, visit the LRP Web site at www.lrp.nih.gov, telephone the Help desk at 866-849-4047, or send email inquiries to lrp@nih.gov.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Important announcement from OIS: Microsoft is scheduled to start deploying a new version of Internet Explorer (IE 7) as part of their high priority automatic updates for Windows XP. The Hospital's ISD division has identified a number of Hospital applications that are NOT compatible with IE 7, including remote access via Citrix, including WEBCIS. We recommend at this time that you do not upgrade your computers, including your home computer, to IE 7 if you access Hospital applications in house or from a remote location. The [download link and instructions](#) are on our [help site](#). If you need further assistance or have any questions, please contact [OIS Client Services](#) at 966-1325.

FROM THE CHAIR'S OFFICE

I would like to thank our chief residents, Phuong Doan and Nate Lambert, for this week's column. Below are two very practical examples of ingenuity applied to the use of our electronic medical record system. I think you'll enjoy their comments and I hope, it will spur you to also think of similar instances where we can come up with of innovative ways to use technology to our advantage.

From the Chief Residents:

It sounds simple, but using WebCIS as a communication tool to coordinate patient care between medicine residents and other departments is underutilized. Two recently developed systems

illustrate how WebCIS can help optimize patient care and enhance discharge planning.

One system is the VIR Priority List, a new group list on WebCIS that has improved communication between medicine residents and the radiology department. Medicine residents manage this group list. VIR staff review the VIR priority list which assists them to triage procedures. Pat Loftus has been instrumental in bringing these groups together to attain the improvements we are now seeing. Under the direction of Dr. Joseph Stavas, vascular interventional radiology now reserves two procedural slots a day for urgent procedures. The target outcome is that inpatient procedures are performed expeditiously and, in turn, decrease delays in patient discharges. The VIR Priority list has been in use for two weeks and early feedback has been positive.

A similar patient list has been created to improve communication between medicine residents and resident assistants. Resident assistants are an important part of each ward team. They play a vital role in obtaining prior medical records, scheduling follow up appointments, and doing many of the intangible things that help keep the team running from day to day. Finding time each day when the busy ward resident and the busy resident assistant can sit down to divvy up tasks had been a constant struggle. This past August, David Harding was the resident on Brian Goldstein's general medicine team when a "eureka" moment occurred - why not eliminate the sit-down meeting in favor of a WebCIS patient list accessible to both resident and resident assistant, that can be updated and amended by both parties to reflect what work has been done and what work still remains. The idea caught on quickly, now every medicine team uses a similar strategy.

These two systems are examples of the innovative thinking of medicine residents who are on the frontlines of patient care. They deserve a hearty congratulations.

Questions or submissions, contact katie_obrien@med.unc.edu.