

# **Teaching Health Systems Science in the Surgery Clerkship**

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#### Background



- Quality improvement (QI) efforts result in a 1-3% improvement in hospital surgical outcomes per year
- QI is an important aspect of health systems science (HSS)
- Learning how to perform QI projects is a critical part of medical training

#### **Curricular Goals**

- 1. Students will understand how guality improvement relates to health systems science
- 2. Students will learn how to initiate, develop, and complete quality improvement projects

# **Curricular Learning Objectives**

After the surgical clerkship didactic session and subsequent Systems Session, students will be able to:

- Recognize the steps and principles of quality 1. improvement
- Describe the use of the Systematic Problem Solving 2. (A3) process in quality improvement
- Demonstrate the ability to summarize a quality 3. improvement project using A3

### **Curricular Elements**

Clerkship: Quality Improvement Interactive Lecture

"Introduction to QI" didactic

Moderated case discussion using real-world example (i.e. reducing surgical site infection, improving perioperative glucose control)



### System Session: A3

"Introduction to A3" didactic

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n: A3 Creation and Presentation	
Students	Students present
create A3	A3 to class and
using case	receive update
from	on project from
clerkship	moderators

#### Student Feedback

"Great exposure to new forms of research and consolidation of information."

"I think it would be helpful to give students an opportunity to actually join these projects as formal research projects."

"It was a nice addition to hear from the presenters how the projects were progressing in real life and some of the real world challenges in implementation."

"Since these were all projects that were ongoing that none of us were actually involved in, it felt a little like just putting someone else's work onto a slide to present. It made it difficult to become invested/find meaning in the task."

## Next Steps

- 1. Score A3 output
  - Provides objective, actionable assessment
- 2. Understand student feedback and modify clerkship didactic and Systems Session as needed