

**NP/PA MEETING MINUTES  
FRIDAY AUGUST 22nd, 2008  
12:30-2:30PM  
EVANSTON EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT**

Present:

Sue Bednar  
Ali Atwater  
Kurt Ortwig  
Kelly Devonshire  
Myriam Riboh  
Marlene Angelico (working)  
Julia Strobel (OOT)

**I. The Numbers**

July 2008	Total #2008	Total #2007
Evanston	999	801
Glenbrook	792	787
Highland Park	516	428

**II. Updates by place**

- A. **Evanston:** high volume: great teamwork
- B. **Glenbrook:**
  - 1. Still need to work on communication between NP/PA and MICN nurses: We continue to get ambulance runs with no “heads up “ about their arrival.
  - 2. RN assigned to FT: works well when there is one assigned
  - 3. Fast track patients are definitely waiting longer to be seen when main room patients are in FT
- C. **Highland Park:** computer moved (thank you Kevin and Marlene) to team I
  - 1. Mondays at EV-the 10-8 shift: no one is able to leave on time-most say until 10PM: too busy to leave at 8pm. SueB will f/u with Marge /Jeff

III. **Rush North Shore Update:** discussions between staff at EV and staff at RNS have begun: SueB will keep all UTD on details as they become available

IV. **JCAH update:**

- A. No word yet about exactly “when” but could be any day now
- B. More reminders:
  - 1. Patient identifiers (name and DOB)
  - 2. Hand hygiene (wash your hands before entering and after leaving a room!!)

- C. Need to know what you would do in the first 5 minutes of suspected bio/chemical exposure (emergency preparedness)
- D. QI/Core measures: we review charts for pain assessment /intervention Also- we are part of the Sepsis goal directed therapy which means recognizing early signs of sepsis, ordering aggressive fluid, and antibiotic administration within the first hour. Sue B will e-mail sepsis meeting minutes to all. **Cliff notes?** ENH mortality rate dropped by 24 % in the last quarter-so we are moving in the right direction with this
- E. On the unit: Do not leave open meds out: cabinets containing suture material , needles, syringes must be locked
- F. More “reminders’ to come-will re-send “tip sheet” early next week

**V. New ED website:**

**The ED has a new website and we–thanks to Geri-get to rent some space there!! Please check out the new website at [www.enhemergency.com](http://www.enhemergency.com).**

**On it you will find a link to “NP/PA Education”**

**This link will lead you to a page with 4 discrete sections:**

1. **Related links:** this is meant as a place where any of you can post links to pertinent information for our group (ie AANP, AAPA, ACEP life long learning articles, etc)
2. **Practice pearls:** again –another section where we need your input into everyday bits of information that you have learned and would like to share with others
3. **Article of the week:** A place to post what you are reading (Ali will be soliciting your input: SueB posted the first one for all to have a look at)
4. **NP/PA education:** this is where you will be able to find the monthly readings from Tintanelli

I will post meeting minutes and dates for the next staff meeting on this site as well, however-we will continue to communicate as have (via email) for day to day important information

**Finally this website requires all of you to be active participants: we need input from all of you** (what you’re reading, what you’ve learned) so that we can all learn from each other!!

To begin with-please send all your links, and/or articles/pearls in an attachment to SueB/Ali so that we can upload

**VI. EDUCATION for the upcoming year:**

**We will be focusing more on more “mainroom” topics:**

The format will be as follows:

At the beginning of each month you will find reading materials on the NP/PA education link of the website (feel free to add to it if you have a great article/resource)

We will schedule a monthly “session” of case study reviews on that topic with one of the ED attendings (**yes-some bribery/groveling will be involved**) that will coincide with our staff meetings.

**We are fortunate to have permission of Dr. Vicki Keough to use her curriculum from the graduate ED course she teaches to use as our outline.**

**In addition: here are some of the topics that were suggested at the meeting:**

- 1. Case presentation skills: “just the facts ” in 3 sentences or less**
- 2. Fever/Sepsis**
- 3. mental status changes**
- 4. Psych patients: what do you need to include in a medical clearance”**
- 5. ophthalmology review**
- 6. Stroke/CVA/Neuro emergencies**
- 7. Dermatology:**
- 8. Management of traumatic injuries**
- 9. Cardiovascular emergencies**
- 10. Respiratory emergencies**
- 11. Abdominal emergencies**
- 12. Environmental emergencies**
- 13. Immune system disorders**
- 14. Toxicologic disorders**
- 15. Obstetric and GU emergencies**
- 16. Peds emergencies: trauma, cardio,abdominal, GU**

**Physical assessment, pertinent labs/diagnostics, plus differential diagnosis will be included as part of every topic.**

## **VII. Chart Review:**

**One of the last things we talked about –but in the world we live in- probably one of the most important- is documentation.**

**And this is a fitting time to talk about just how we would like to accomplish this.**

**It comes at a time where the corporate goal of using EPIC to help us follow “best practice” guidelines is moving right up front.**

**As we improve in our abilities to manage sicker patients, review of documentation is the tool we can use to make sure that we all “get it”.**

**We will be talking more in weeks to come about how to accomplish this.**

**It will involve us peer reviewing charts-again so that we can all learn from each other.**

**BOTTOM LINE:We've got lots of work to do but it's going to be a great year!!!**