The Use of Electronic Modalities during the First Month of Anesthesia Residency Training in OR

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As digital media and technology have become prevalent in society, the utilization of them has been adopted in many areas including education sectors. As a result, information traditionally communicated verbally or in writing now can be presented visually through electronic media. The use of digital media is an important aid to improving communication with accuracy and speed. The modalities for electronic visualization can be also applied in the field of anesthesiology in various ways. For instance, photo documentation can be applied to communicate airway and dental conditions more effectively. [1]

During the first week of anesthesia residency training the first year residents are required to retain and recall a plethora of information in OR. Transmitting such an overwhelming amount of teaching materials in the OR environment could be enhanced by the use of digital technology to record verbal information and practical demonstrations to be reviewed later.

For example, video recording with a cell phone was utilized to reinforce the basic protocols and routines including checking anesthesia machine and setting up the OR for general anesthesia; the video files were shared for review by the residents.

For teaching about direct laryngoscopy and intubation demonstrative video clips on the intubation technique were reviewed in the OR on the MIS computer immediately before performing direct laryngoscopy. Next, the McGrath videoscope was used by the mentor to simultaneously monitor the ongoing visual experience of the resident performing direct laryngoscopy. Although the view on the display screen was not identical to the direct view of the resident, the device facilitated the immediate feedback and guidance to the resident in real time.

The overall subjective reactions by the first year residents to the visually presented information using electronic modalities were positive and encouraging. In short, the digital recording and display of the visual information may be another useful tool during the first month of anesthesia residency training.

References: