

Assigning Online Educational Modules Prior to Orientation Increases Interns' Level of Readiness for Internship

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INTRODUCTION

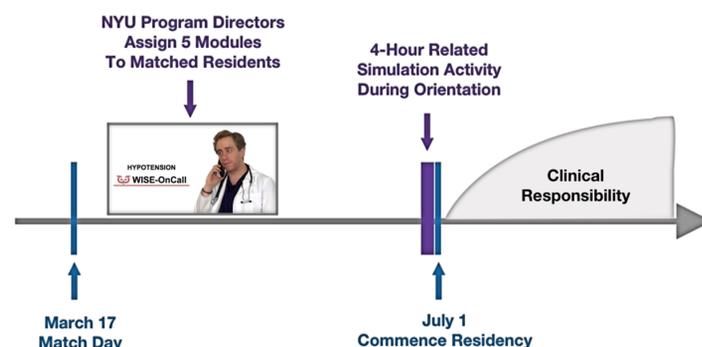
Transitioning to residency is a stressful time in the life of a new physician as they bear significantly increased patient care responsibilities. Program directors and hospital administrators responsible for patient safety also share concerns regarding resident preparedness. For the past five years NYU Grossman School of Medicine has been providing incoming interns with e-learning modules prior to commencing their residency as a means of addressing issues related to patient assessment, management, and patient safety. We postulated that during the period between match day and July 1, soon-to-be-residents would have the time and be eager to focus on patient care issues. We studied whether these trainees would view the modules and, if so, find them helpful in their preparation for residency.

APPROACH/METHODS

NYUGSOM faculty created a series of twelve online educational modules (WISE-OnCall) to address acute presentations of common clinical problems such as dyspnea, chest pain, abdominal pain, fever/sepsis, and oliguria. Each module was designed specifically for senior medical students and early interns with an emphasis on distinguishing life-threatening diagnoses from more benign causes. The importance of recognizing potentially critical situations from among the many possible diagnoses, initiating management, and escalating concerns to seniors is addressed in each of the modules. In the spring of 2017 we began assigning a subset of these modules to incoming interns in selected residency programs. Each subsequent year additional NYU residency programs participated and assigned modules to their incoming interns. In the spring of 2021 all incoming interns were assigned all 12 modules to complete.

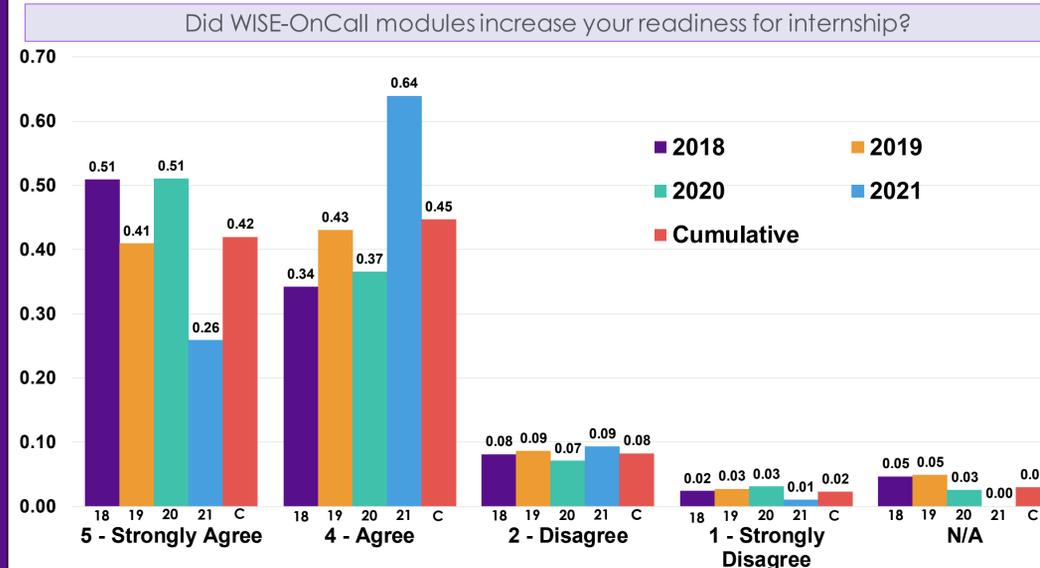
During orientation, incoming NYUGSOM interns participate in First Night on Call, a four hour simulation session that emphasizes patient safety and escalating problems to a superior during common clinical scenarios. Trainees complete a survey at the end of this session. In 2017, 2018, and 2019 we also surveyed the trainees again six months into their intern year.

WISE-OnCall For New Resident Orientation



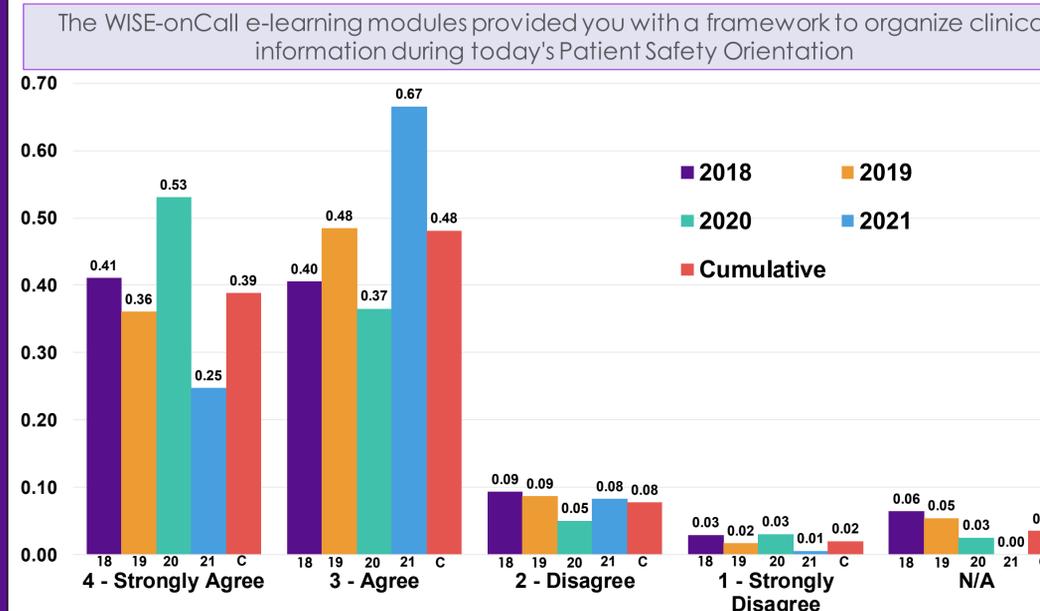
RESULTS

RETROSPECTIVE PRE-POST ATTITUDES SURVEY 2018-2021



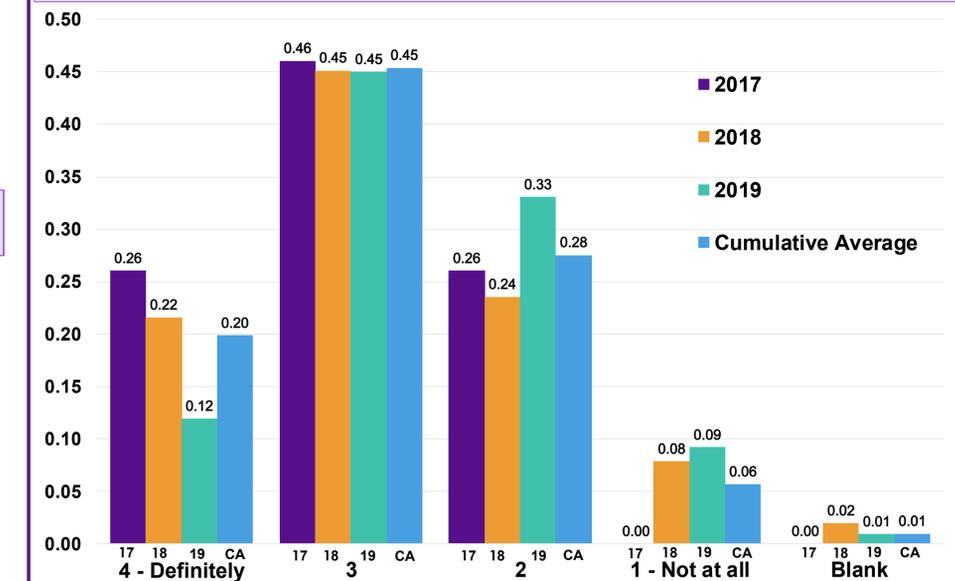
Over 4 years (n=753), **86.6%** of interns reported that they either **agreed or strongly agreed** that the **WISE-OnCall modules increased their readiness for internship**

Over 4 years (n=753), **86.9%** of interns reported that they either **agreed or strongly agreed** that the **WISE-OnCall modules provided them with a framework to organize clinical information** during First Night On Call (Patient Safety Orientation).



6-MONTH FOLLOW-UP PROGRAM SURVEY 2017-2019

To what extent, would you **recommend the WISE-OnCall online modules** to incoming interns?



Over 3 years (n=214), **62.6%** of interns reported that they would recommend WISE-OnCall modules to future incoming interns.

DISCUSSION

Incoming interns are primed for learning about acute clinical issues they are likely to encounter early in their training. Providing interns with a series of online educational modules prior to their orientation is a highly feasible and acceptable approach to help prepare them. Since these on-line educational modules are focused on the recognition and management of acute inpatient problems they help our trainees develop a framework for organizing clinical information and to feel more confident in their preparation for early internship. Follow up surveys six months later reinforce the usefulness of the modules. These WISE OnCALL e-learning modules allow incoming interns an opportunity to familiarize themselves with clinical problems they will encounter prior to being integrated into a fast-paced and complex health care system.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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