

# Fewer Clicks, Notes Are Quick

## The Benefits of Formalized Peer EMR Training

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### BACKGROUND

- With an increasing use of electronic medical record (EMR), it's effect on clinical practice becomes of paramount importance.
- Studies of resident workflow suggest that physicians spend the majority of their time on computer-based activities dedicated to documentation. Moreover, burdensome "clicking" associated with documentation has been identified as a source of physician burnout.

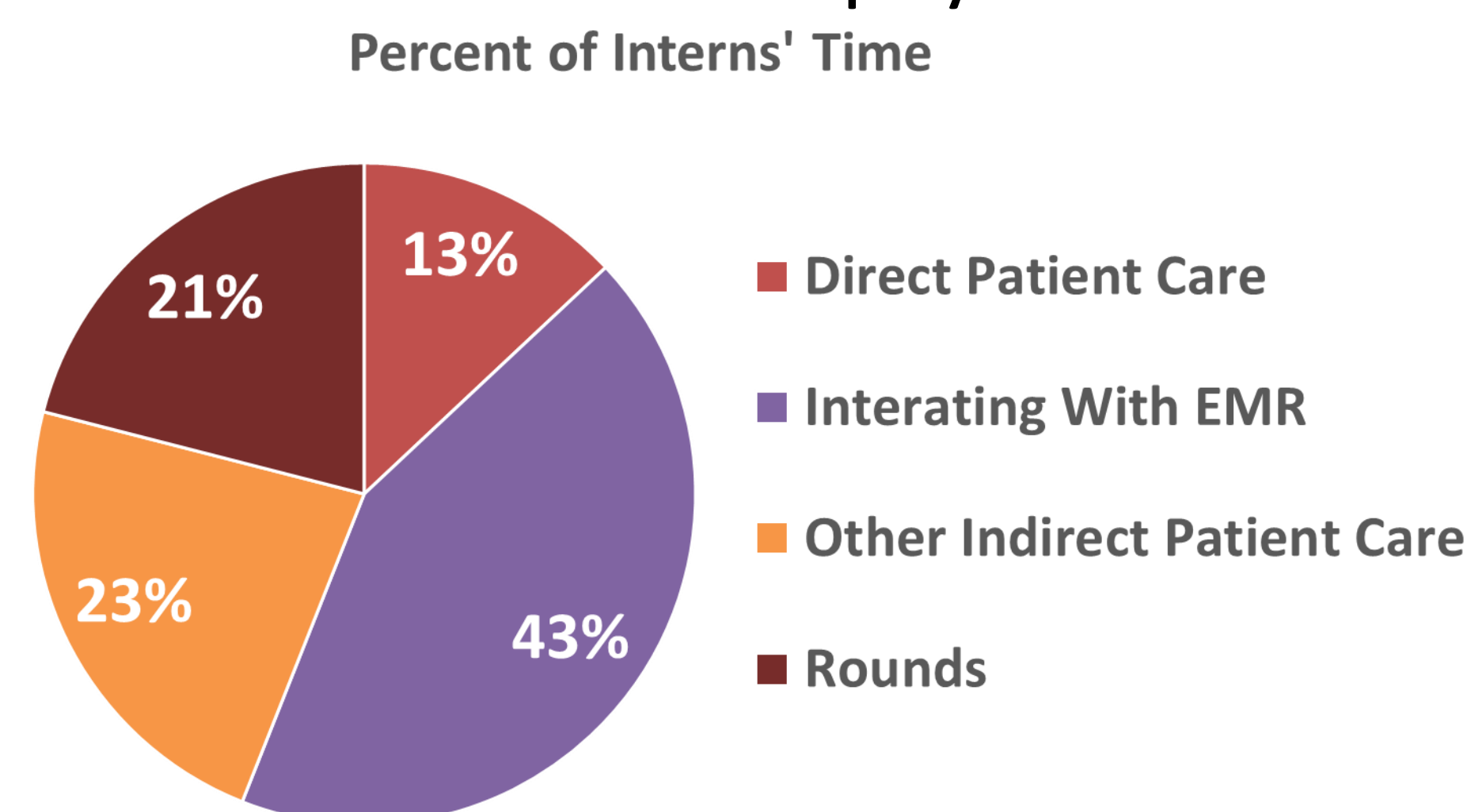


Figure 1: First Year Residents' 24-hr Time Allocation

- This raises a question about whether electronic documentation is inevitably time-consuming or if there are limitations in the design or understanding of efficient EMR use.
- We studied the impact of peer to peer EMR education on self-perceived efficiency of resident documentation for our inpatient (Meditech) and outpatient (Intergy) EMR systems at Stamford hospital's Internal Medicine Residency Program.



### AIM

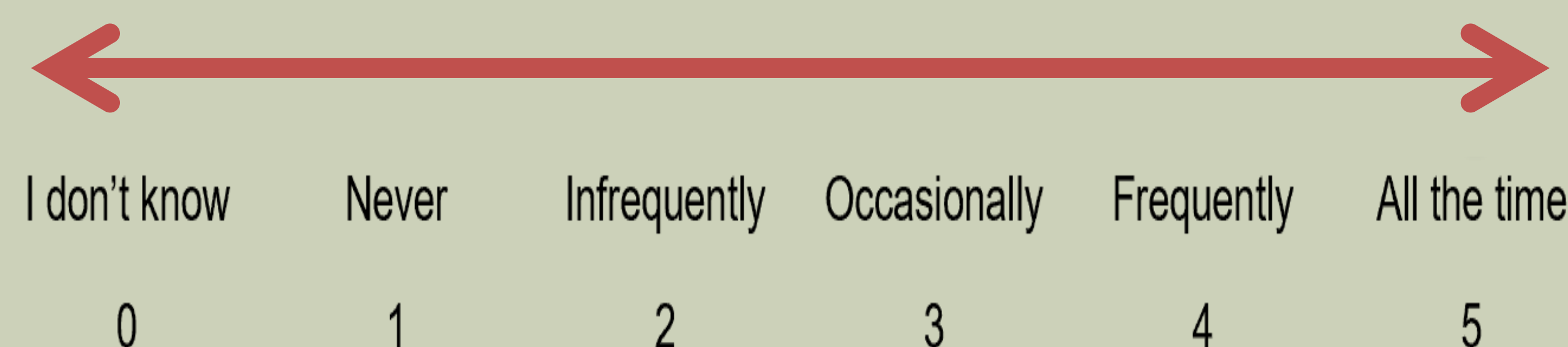
- Formalize peer to peer training techniques to improve residents' EMR practice habits.
- Assess pre and post intervention knowledge, self-perceived efficiency, and practice habits in EMR use, in both inpatient and outpatient settings.

### METHODS

- Self-administered anonymous pre and post intervention Likert scale questionnaire via Survey Monkey® to all IM residents (N=21).
- Questions on knowledge and utilization of EMR capabilities.
- Answer choice scales ranged from "I don't know how to use" (score 0) to "using all the time" (score 5).
- Intervention: Ten pre-recorded, short peer training videos .
- Chi square and t-test analyses utilized to calculate group differences.

### RESULTS

Variable	Pre			Post			p-value
	n	Mean	SD	n	Mean	SD	
Dot Phase	20	1.05	0.99	14	3.07	1.49	<0.001
Use F Buttons	20	1.95	1.91	14	3.57	1.60	0.014
Referral Tab	20	0.75	1.21	14	3.36	1.39	<0.001
Fav Orders	20	2.95	1.82	14	3.79	1.31	0.152
Lab-Fish	20	2.35	1.66	14	3.21	1.53	0.133
ECG	20	3.65	1.46	14	3.93	1.21	0.562
Medtech Efficiency	20	6.90	1.94	14	7.64	1.39	0.230
POM	19	1.32	1.49	13	2.85	1.73	0.012
ROS or PE	19	1.79	1.78	13	3.00	1.53	0.055
Previous Notes	19	3.58	1.54	13	3.77	1.42	0.726
Navigate Tasks	19	1.79	1.72	13	3.46	1.39	0.007
Intergy Efficiency	19	4.84	2.19	13	6.62	1.98	0.026



### DISCUSSION

- Utilization of certain EMR efficiency techniques improved with peer to peer training.
- Other responses trended in the direction of post-intervention improvement but did not meet statistical significance.
- Possibly due to small sample size, drop in post-intervention survey respondents, and short duration of intervention.



Figure 2: Causes of Clinician Burnout

### CONCLUSION

- Physician burnout has been associated with time-consuming EMR documentation.
- Formalizing peer-to-peer education was associated with improved utilization of more efficient EMR features for IM residents.
- This may lead to improving time management and reducing resident frustration and burnout.
- We plan to conduct future studies with a larger sample size to assess further significance of formalized peer to peer EMR training on efficiency, ability to reduce time spent on EMR clicking and effect on resident wellness.

### REFERENCES

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