Comprehensive Research Experience for Medical Students
Summer Research Program 2018

Supervisor/Project Information Form
Due February 14 2018 by email to crems.programs@utoronto.ca

PLEASE SUBMIT IN WORD FORMAT ONLY. PDF will not be accepted

Supervisor Name: Dr. Melissa Tai MD FRCSC MSc
Hospital/Research Institution: Michael Garron Hospital
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Field of Research (2 keywords): Cost-Analysis; patient impact

Department: Obstetrics and Gynecology

School of Graduate Studies Appointment (IMS, LMP, IHPME etc)? No:

If YES, please name:

Project Title: The cost-analysis of cancelled surgical procedures in community teaching hospital setting from surgeon’s, patient’s and institution perspectives.

Brief Project Description (<300 words): Quality Improvement metrics have been developed to improve OR efficiency yet scheduled surgical procedures are still being cancelled unexpectedly on daily basis. Economic strains placed on the OR budget and overtime surgical staff costs mandate that cases that finish later than the scheduled time will be cancelled. Thus, the last scheduled cases are most prone to be cancelled due to delay in starting the case and reduced time available to complete the case. Most cost-analysis studies on cancelled elective surgeries centered on the impact on the institution only. What is the impact of cancelled surgery on the patient and the surgeon?

The project is a prospective study of operative room efficiency metrics (First case starts, Turnover times, Complications, Equipment failures) over a 3 months period. Scheduled surgical cases that were cancelled on the scheduled day will be tracked. Causes that lead to cancellation of the case will be monitored. Patient-centered interview will be conducted prior to patient’s discharge to evaluate the impact of unexpected cancelled surgery on the patient. Cost analysis from patient’s perspective (time loss of work, care taker cost, re-scheduling of the surgery etc.), from the surgeon’s perspective (time and income loss, rescheduling of the surgery, anxiety) will be compiled. The findings will be used to improve OR efficiency, and more importantly to study the impact of cancelled surgery on the patients and the surgeons. The cost-analysis generated will be used to develop cost-effectiveness model and to find the most ideal OR finishing time for OR efficiency and patient satisfaction.