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: Eliane Shore

Hospital/Research Institution: St. Michae’s Hospital

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Field of Research (2 keywords): Safety Attitudes, Operating Room Black Box

Department: Obstetrics and Gynecology

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

If YES, please name:

Project Title: Perceptions of the OR BlackBox and Patient Safety Attitudes: A pilot study

Brief Project Description (<300 words):

An innovative technology, the OR Black Box, has been developed for the Operating Room to mimic the blackbox in airline industry. It has the ability to record the surgical field, the anesthetic equipment, and the level of noise in the OR. The OR Black Box has the ability to prospectively assess technical skills, errors, team communications, and environmental factors in the OR. This technology is being used to improve patient safety with surgical error and team analysis. Since the main focus of the OR Black Box is to improve patient safety, it is important to evaluate the patient safety culture in an institution as background information.

One challenge with any type of new technology or change in protocol in the OR is subjects (surgeons, anesthesiologists, nurses, etc) perceptions about participating in these types of interventions, and various healthcare professionals may have different reactions. Working interprofessionally brings issues about hierarchical relationships. Another reason could be related to the high proportion of imposter syndrome in the field of medicine, which has not been well studied in medicine. Imposter syndrome can be characterized by chronic feelings of self-doubt and fear of being discovered as an intellectual fraud. Individual privacy concerns may also have influence on various health care professionals attitudes to OR Black Box.
The purpose of this pilot study is to prospectively assess knowledge about and attitudes toward the OR Black Box project and to measure patient safety attitudes. This analysis will determine barriers and facilitators to participation and implementation of the OR Black Box, so that this important patient safety and quality improvement tool, and feedback resulting from it, can be effectively adopted at our institution and other institutions considering implementing Black Box technology.