Promoting Primary Care Research in South Carolina
A Brief History of the State Resident Research Event

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Matthew Cline, MD  AnMed Health Family Medicine Residency, Anderson SC
T. Edwin Evans, MD  Seneca Lakes Family Medicine Residency, Seneca SC
Beginnings

• Idea brought up by several faculty at different residencies to have a statewide resident research gathering
  • At Anderson, the local champion was Dr. Libby Baxley, now a Dean at ECU in North Carolina
  • She envisioned a program like an STFM research afternoon or the Fellowship Research Day at the UNC-Chapel Hill Faculty development fellowship

• Initially planned to be in Myrtle Beach in Spring 1990
• Hurricane Hugo in the fall of 1989 changed the plan
• Delayed until Fall 1991
First Statewide Residency Research Event

• Multiple goals
  • Gathering of residents from all 7 residencies in the state
  • Included a series of workshops that were resident focused
  • Resident research presentations were one workshop, with up to two invited to present from each state
  • A “residency and the medical marriage” was another workshop

• The place? Hickory Knob State Park
Hickory Knob State Park
Pro and Con of a State Park

• Advantages
  • Lower cost
  • Multiple low cost activities- golf, swimming, boating
  • Enough space for residencies to send larger groups
  • Allowed for focus to be on the workshops and group activities

• Disadvantages
  • Relatively rustic
  • Simple food with little variation
  • No nearby shopping or social life (or town)
  • Not centrally located
  • Not generally a desired destination
The research presentations?

• Variable with no real plan or oversight as to what could be presented.
• Volunteer faculty from multiple residencies were judges
• Top two projects:
  • Weighing resident lab coats by year and rotation (including content details of pockets)
  • Study of back pain patients with and without PT referrals
• Was a good start
Next steps

• Hickory Knob was repeated for 1 more year, then interest declined.
• Nearly 10 years later, a new group of faculty looked to revive the research component, this time linking it with workshops that centered on Chief Resident training.
• A more central location was chosen in the state (White Oak Conference Center).
• All the residencies were provided form for residents to propose their abstracts to a central group of 3 evaluators.
• Top 20 were invited to present in the spring of 2002? 2003?
White Oak Conference Center
What else was going on simultaneously?

• RC-FM had added a requirement for resident research in late 1990s
  • Several of the now 8 FM residencies in the state had started their own “Research Day” where locally, 2\textsuperscript{nd} and 3\textsuperscript{rd} year residents presented their research
  • For commentators and judges, there was often sharing of faculty from one program to another to provide outside expertise (or to remove perception of bias)
  • After local presentation, a next step could be to propose to a research workshop at STFM, or to propose as a poster presentation to a state or regional meeting.

• Thus, there were several “Resident Research Symposiums” occurring throughout the state, usually in the spring.
Next steps: Grow Finances and Interest

• Move to solidify financial support
  • Keep the association with the Chief Resident training workshop
  • Utilize AHEC funding for resident lodging, meals, and *cash awards*

• Expand resident interest
  • Link the course to the SCAFP’s summer CME breakaway at the beach
  • This increased resident interest in attending the venue, even if not central in the state
  • Allow for poster presentations as well

• Standardize selection criteria
  • All residencies provide faculty to review and score abstracts submitted by residents
  • Rotating group of 3 judges with predefined scoring at the meeting for awards (rotates between the 8 FM residencies in the state)
Litchfield Beach Resort at Pawley’s Island
Leadership from the FM Faculty

• MUSC’s FM residency at Trident had the most developed resident research curriculum, along with USC’s Providence program.

• Faculty from these two programs worked on several iterations of scoring and judging criteria, as well as abstract evaluation forms, that have been improved over the last 10 years.

• Each residency is reserved 1 slot for its nomination of “best resident research project” and then there are 8 selected from the state at large.
  • Total of 16 podium presentations
  • Symposium proceedings published ahead of time
  • Other applicants are invited to be poster presentations
Sonesta Resort at Hilton Head Island
Ed’s portion: Mechanics/process
South Carolina AHEC Resident Scholarship Symposium

• Now hosted at the annual SCAFP Annual Assembly
  • BOD desired interaction between residents and members
  • CME offered
• “Quality Improvement” and “Basic Research” are categories
  • No longer doing case reports...*
• Each program gets to select one presenter for the statewide symposium
• Eight other spots are chosen by judges at the programs
• Eligibility requires confirmation of IRB approval/exemption
AHEC Sponsorship

• $400, $300, $200 prizes in both QI and Basic Research
• Poster presentations are encouraged (one winner, $200)
  • All abstracts not selected for podium presentation are eligible for poster
  • Any incomplete abstracts are eligible only for poster presentation
• All presenters (podium and posters) receive a free weekend at the beach for their family!
Calendar for the Research Symposium

• March/April- abstracts solicited, sent to panel of faculty reviewers at each residency program
  • Reviewers are blinded to the program source of the abstract
  • Reviewers do not review their own residents’ abstracts
  • Residents also provide a brief bio to aid the Symposium Director
  • IMRAD format (Intro, Methods, Results and Discussion)

• Mid/late April, top eight presentations are selected by faculty reviewers

• Accepted proposals are designated as QI or Basic Research by the panel
Calendar for the Symposium

• Individual programs may have their own “Research Day”, usually in April or May.
• Programs choose their top project for one of the guaranteed spots; these abstracts are not submitted to the Faculty Review panel.
• Statewide program is in mid-June at the beach
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Reviewers scoresheet</th>
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| SC AHEC Resident Scholarship Symposium  
  June 4 and 5, 2017  
  Abstract Evaluation Guidelines |

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<tr>
<th>Quality</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Excellent writing; Sound study design and analysis</td>
<td>Fair writing; Minor flaws in study design and/or analysis</td>
<td>Poor writing; Poorly executed study</td>
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<th>Originality</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Unique perspective on topic; Innovative analysis or implementation</td>
<td>Perspective on topic is similar to prior research but with minor changes</td>
<td>Study has been replicated multiple times in very similar fashion</td>
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<tr>
<th>Importance to Primary Care</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clearly related to primary care; Timely and important topic</td>
<td>Locally related to primary care; Inconsequential choice of topic</td>
<td>Unrelated to primary care; Restatement of old knowledge</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Important topic; Excellent writing; Sound study design and execution</td>
<td>Minor flaws noted in study design, execution or analysis; Some errors in writing style and/or format</td>
<td>Major flaws in study design, execution or analysis; Poor writing style and/or format</td>
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<tr>
<th>TOTAL POINTS</th>
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Day of the Symposium

• Sixteen presentations are broken up into one afternoon and the next morning
• Residents requested to remain present for all presentations
• 10 minutes for presentation, 5 for questions
• Three judges, one director to facilitate discussions
• Prizes are awarded immediately after the morning session, at a lunch attended by the state academy membership
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Presentation Title: South Carolina AHEC Resident Scholarship Symposium June 2017</th>
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### Judges scoresheet

#### Presentation Title:

**South Carolina AHEC Resident Scholarship Symposium**

**June 2017**

#### Residency Program:

**Type of Presentation:**

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<th>Background Info</th>
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<td>Comprehensive literature review; Fact, if any, missing facts or concepts</td>
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<td>Sufficient literature review; Missing minor facts or concepts</td>
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<td>Superficial literature review; Missing major facts or concepts</td>
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<td>Methods appropriate for specific aim; Explained clearly and in detail; Reproducible</td>
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<td>Appropriate for specific aim; Explained but lacking in detail; Reproducible</td>
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<td>Somewhat appropriate for specific aim; Explained but lacking major details; Unclear if reproducible</td>
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<td>Inappropriate for specific aim; Unclear methods; Not reproducible</td>
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<td>Well-organized results; Proper statistical analysis</td>
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<td>Results presented in disorganized fashion; No statistical analysis performed</td>
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<td>Acknowledges all significant limitations; Provides additional explanation on limitations</td>
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<td>Conclusions clearly related to study aim and results</td>
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<td>Related to primary care; Topic of lesser importance</td>
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<td>Largely related to primary care; Study provided no new knowledge of topic</td>
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<td>Well-organized presentation; Fluent dialogue; Well prepared</td>
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<td>Organized presentation; Sounds anxious, but managed</td>
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<td>Presentation lacks proper organization; Does not manage anxiety well</td>
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<td>Disorganized presentation; Unprofessional dialogue; Poor presentation skills</td>
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### TOTAL POINTS

**8**
Last year’s winners

• Basic Research
  • “Success of In-Hospital Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation” Vasagar, Brintha MD MPH; Spartanburg Regional FM Residency Program

• Quality Improvement
  • “Documentation and Intervention on Pediatric Obesity at a Primary Care Clinic” Neary, Branden MD; Trident/MUSC FM Residency Program

• Poster Session
  • “Physician Perceptions of an Accountable Care Unit after Implementation” Quinn, Justin MD and Michael Plachta MD
Influence Beyond South Carolina

• Symposium has been presented in several publications
  • Promoting Scholarly Activity in Family Medicine Residency Programs: What’s the Reward?
    • From the Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors
    • Ann Fam Med 2004;2:520-521
Promoting Resident Scholarship Through a Statewide Symposium

Adrienne Z. Ables, PharmD; Peter J. Carek, MD, MS; Lori M. Dickerson, PharmD; Stoney Abercrombie, MD; Robert B. Hanlin, MD

Background and Objectives: Literature on integration and assessment of a research curriculum into family medicine residency training programs is limited. The objectives of this paper are to describe the development, implementation, and evaluation of a state-wide resident scholarship symposium. Methods: In 2003, the South Carolina Area Health Education Consortium (SC AHEC) and residency program directors developed an annual resident scholarship symposium. Abstracts are submitted in the categories of case presentation, quality improvement, or clinical research. Subsequently, two half days are devoted to residents’ presentation of their research, which is evaluated by a panel of three judges, and awards are given in each category. Results: A total of 238 residents have presented 176 research projects. Fifteen projects have been presented during the Annual Spring Conference of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM), seven projects have been presented during the Annual Meeting of the North American Primary Care Research Group (NAPCRG), and nine projects have been published in peer-reviewed journals. Resident evaluations have rated the conference overall as good to outstanding. Conclusions: A state-wide symposium has provided family medicine residents an opportunity to present their scholarly works to a larger audience and is associated with resident projects that have been presented or published on a national level.

(Fam Med 2010;42(6):440-3.)

From the Spartanburg Family Medicine Residency Program, Spartanburg, SC (Dr Ables); Trident/Medical University of South Carolina Family Medicine Residency Program (Drs Carek and Dickerson); Anderson Family Medicine Residency Program, Anderson, SC (Dr Abercrombie); and Greenville Family Medicine Residency Program, Greenville, SC (Dr Hanlin).
Other State/Regional Research Symposia

Regional Family Medicine Resident Research Symposium
May 20, 2017 09:30 AM – May 20, 2017 04:00 PM
Location: Galveston, Texas
Address: Primary Care Pavilion, 400 Harborside Drive

Michigan Family Medicine Research Day
Thursday, May 26, 2016
The Johnson Center at Cleary University
3725 Cleary Drive
Howell, MI 48843

CAMP LEJEUNE REGIONAL MEDICAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM
The Camp Lejeune Family Medicine Residency is calling for abstracts for the 7th Annual Camp Lejeune Regional Medical Research Competition and Symposium. There will be podium and poster presentations.

May 25-26 2017: Regional Research Symposium