

**[P02.144] Implementation of the 2006 AAN Parkinson Disease Practice Guidelines as a Teaching Curriculum Improves Medical Student and Resident Evidence-Based Knowledge**

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**OBJECTIVE:** To assess the efficacy of 2006 AAN Practice Guidelines on Parkinson's Disease (PD) on student and resident knowledge of PD. **BACKGROUND:** PD is the second most common neurodegenerative disorder. Due to the high prevalence, primary care physicians and students are likely to encounter PD. Familiarity with AAN guidelines is imperative to make evidence-based decisions in PD. **DESIGN/METHODS:** A 27-item questionnaire was administered to allopathic and osteopathic medical students and Internal Medicine residents in a large urban teaching hospital. Multiple-choice questions (MCQ) addressed topics in PD: new onset diagnosis and prognosis; treatment of motor fluctuations and dyskinesia; evaluation and treatment of depression, psychosis, and dementia; and neuroprotective strategies and alternative therapy. Participants were then instructed to independently review AAN guidelines ([www.aan.com](http://www.aan.com)). A week later, post-intervention MCQ were administered, along with a survey of quality and instructional value of the guidelines. **RESULTS:** Of those surveyed, 66% read the guidelines; 87% felt more aware of and more likely to use AAN practice guidelines and evidence-based guidelines in their practice after participating in this exercise; 63% felt guidelines were easy to use and understand; 40% felt guidelines more appropriate for Neurology residents/attendings; 80% felt better able to differentiate PD/parkinsonism and identify cardinal symptoms of PD. Pre-intervention MCQ average correct was the same for students (68%) and residents (67%), and increased post-intervention (80%) ( $t=2.6$ ,  $df=41$ ;  $p=.01$ ). Those that read guidelines were more likely to correctly answer "Which medications reduce off time for patients with motor fluctuations?" (Fisher's exact,  $p=.08$ ), and "Highest level of evidence supports use of which drug for PD-associated depression?" (Fisher's exact,  $p=.02$ ). **CONCLUSIONS/RELEVANCE:** Implementation of the 2006 AAN Guidelines on PD led to statistically significant increases in knowledge on post-intervention testing. Focused teaching intervention led to greater awareness of availability of evidence-based guidelines that can be incorporated into clinical practice. Further study is warranted to determine if these findings lead to improved health outcomes.

Category - Neurologic Education

SubCategory - Other