



Empowering Clinician Education With Patient-Outcome Feedback

As educators and life-long learners, how often do we struggle with providing feedback or assessments that help answer the question “how can I/you/we do better?” Multisource feedback, objective structured clinical examination, and direct observation in the workplace are well known examples of assessments used in competency-based medical education training. In the October issue of *Academic Emergency Medicine Education and Training*, [Dr. Kenneth Iserson introduces](#) patient outcome feedback (POF) as an underutilized educational opportunity and a performance-based measure that helps clinicians make future medical decisions and develop a “validated mental library of outcomes.”

Whether it’s providing feedback on admitted patients’ diagnoses or details about unscheduled return visits within a short timeframe, regular review of patient outcomes may help to improve diagnostic accuracy of physicians and treatment outcomes for patients. However, POF often is difficult to obtain, even with the help of an electronic medical record, and frequently requires a significant amount of work by individual clinicians to consciously seek this feedback.

Dr. Iserson also proposes several interventions to overcome the barriers to obtaining POF, such as requiring emergency physicians to receive POF as part of hospital accreditation, classifying review of POF as a Category 1 Continuing Medical Education activity, reimbursing clinicians for learning activities related to POF, and generating POF reports from the electronic medical record for individual providers.

I encourage you to read [this month’s Editor-in-Chief pick](#) and consider ways you might be able to use patient outcome feedback at your institution to improve the care you, your colleagues, and your trainees provide to patients.

Respectfully,
Susan B. Promes, MD
Editor-in-Chief

P.S. AEM Education and Training recently held a [recorded virtual reviewer workshop](#). The workshop, in its entirety, can be viewed by following the [link](#).