

**Minutes of the House Staff Council  
Mount Sinai School of Medicine**

**November 3, 2010**

Present:	Dr. M. Barghash Dr. J. Chase Dr. B. Coakley Dr. S. Cohen Dr. B. Ferguson Dr. L. Friedman Dr. A. Ikeako Dr. E. Ko Dr. M. Luttrull Dr. A. Malbari Dr. D. Maman Dr. E. Morency Dr. S. Motivala Dr. R. Panara Dr. J. Park Dr. M. Pilapil Dr. M. Shimonova Dr. S. Sicular Dr. J. Siefferman Dr. S. Yang	Excused:	Dr. S. Abramowitz Dr. A. Bird Dr. M. Crochet Dr. G. David-West Dr. L. Doyon Dr. J. Galjour Dr. K. Gestuvo Dr. J. Gonzalez Dr. R. Guarino Dr. C. Halverstam Dr. M. Jiang Dr. K. Kemp Dr. H. Koncicki Dr. A. Lim Dr. R. Meyer Dr. K. O'Connor Dr. R. Park Dr. R. Patel Dr. A. Pawale Dr. M. Rocco Dr. B. Shah Dr. A. Sim Dr. N. Sun Dr. A. Thomas Dr. P. Vaishnava Dr. M. Walkup Dr. A. Yang
By Invitation:	Dr. B. Darrow Mr. P. Johnson Dr. J. Kannry Dr. I. Nash Mr. P. Williams Mr. D. Voorsanger		

1. Dr. Sicular called the meeting to order and welcomed the house staff representatives. The minutes of the August 26, 2010, meeting were approved without correction.
2. It was agreed to postpone a review of the Council's by-laws to a future meeting.
3. On behalf of the Work Environment and Quality Subcommittee, Dr. Barghash introduced Bruce Darrow, M.D., Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Medicine (Cardiology), and Joseph Kannry, M.D., Associate Professor of Medicine. Dr. Darrow and Dr. Kannry provided an update on the implementation of the Epic system, which will be used for all inpatient care at Mount Sinai. By July 1, 2011, Epic will have replaced all other systems currently in use for order entry and results review. Inpatient lookup through the Clinical Data Repository (CDR) is now live and available for house staff after completion of a 30-minute online training session. Signout and discharge documentation have been redesigned in Epic. Dr. Kannry discussed the educational value of the use of Epic for clinical decision support and

encouraged house staff to develop projects related to the system. Dr. Motivala asked whether the discharge summary could be used in departments with no signout, such as Neurological Surgery, and Dr. Darrow replied that lists of patients would be maintained in Epic. Dr. Sicular asked which aspects of implementation should be most important for the Council. Dr. Darrow replied that participation in online and classroom training would be mandatory for house staff, and that residents could assist with user testing, which would begin within two months. Dr. Kannry added that the Epic implementation team would communicate with program directors and coordinators regarding mandatory training.

4. Dr. Ira Nash, Chief Medical Officer, provided a presentation on quality and performance improvement initiatives at Mount Sinai. Dr. Nash reviewed external measurements of the quality of patient care, including Medicare standards that will become effective in 2013. The Medicare standards provide specific metrics that are tied to Medicare payments to hospitals in different diagnosis-related groups. Dr. Nash described the quality improvement mechanisms at Mount Sinai and presented an organizational chart showing responsibilities for this process in the Hospital. Dr. Nash invited the participation of house staff on quality improvement committees, including the clinical review committees, which conduct retrospective peer review of care, and the performance improvement review and oversight committees, which determine and oversee areas for improvement. Dr. Nash also encouraged house staff to develop quality improvement projects and offered to assist house staff in such projects.
5. Dr. Siefferman provided an update on behalf of the Resources Subcommittee. The subcommittee continues to study the benefits provided to house staff such as support for licensure and board certification, meals, and ACLS/BLS recertification. The subcommittee continued to work with Mr. Johnson and Ms. Caryn Tiger-Paillex, Director of Human Resources for Mount Sinai School of Medicine, on this review. Several residents expressed the importance of seeking additional Hospital support for ACLS/BLS certification. It was noted that some departments, such as Emergency Medicine, conduct this training for their residents. Once the review is complete, the Council will make recommendations to the GME Committee and Mount Sinai leadership.
6. There was a review of the activities of the Education Subcommittee. The subcommittee has been reviewing teaching opportunities at the East Harlem Health Outreach Partnership (EHHOP) clinic operated by Mount Sinai medical students. The subcommittee has also been compiling a summary of resident teaching resources that could be used for interdepartmental education.
7. Dr. Sicular informed the Council that the GME Committee and the GME Office were evaluating the LanguageMate online course in Medical Spanish for use in the residency and fellowship programs. Mr. Voorsanger had arranged to speak with the Council about the software after the present meeting and to provide information about demonstrating LanguageMate.
8. Dr. Sicular briefly updated the committee on several other Council initiatives that were planned or underway, including a web page for the Council on the Mount Sinai website, a quarterly Council newsletter, a program to facilitate resident travel for disaster relief work, and a medical salvage program.
9. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting was to be scheduled for December 2010, with further details to follow.