

**Richard D. Urman, MD, MBA**

Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA

*Conducting Perioperative Code Status and Goals of Care Discussions: A Bi-Institutional Study to Develop a Novel, Evidence-Based Curriculum for Anesthesiology Trainees*

**Abstract**

Despite the importance of preoperative code status and goals of care discussion (CSD/GOCD), a formal curriculum for anesthesiology residents is lacking. Residents are often uncomfortable conducting these conversations and there is a lack of research investigating the effectiveness of formal, evidence-based teaching during anesthesia training. We propose to develop a novel skills training program with the aims to assess its immediate effect on CSD/GOCD skills, long-term internalization of the CSD training, and the authenticity, feasibility and acceptability of the CSD program and observed standardized patient encounter (OSCE) interaction. In this prospective, randomized study, CA-1 residents will be assigned to the study or control group. Both groups will undergo pre- and post-intervention OSCEs. The control group will complete the online modules only, while the study group will complete the entire skills training program consisting of online modules, self-assessments, and small group exercises. To measure CSD/GOCD proficiency, all participants will interview trained patient actors in pre-and post intervention OSCE. We will use existing scoring systems and surveys. Standard patient encounters will be video recorded and reviewed by two blinded clinician graders. The pre- and post-participation survey will assess comfort and experience with CSD/GOCD. The follow up surveys will assess long-term retention of training, comfort and interim experiences. We will perform a validation of the existing CSD/GOCD assessment tools for use in the perioperative setting. If there is a clinically significant demonstrable benefit, we expect that our results will lead to a formalization of this innovative curriculum on a national scale.