

FERNE 10th Anniversary Long-range Planning Session

Event on May 15, 2007

Chicago, IL

Attended by EM Residency Directors and Invited FERNE Guests, including past FERNE speakers, EM residents, EM Residency Directors, other EM Practitioners, medical educators, industry representatives, and other foundation representatives.

Approximately 100 guests in all were in attendance.

Key Concepts from Long-range Planning Session

Educational

- **Like SAEM Neurological Emergencies Interest Group, FERNE is trying to enhance patient care through research and educational activities.**
- **FERNE should collaborate with the SAEM NEIG and ACEP's interest groups to create synergy.**
- **It was pointed out that getting people to stop their busy days and to take the time to learn about neurological emergencies is the most difficult challenge that FERNE and any educators face.**
- **People still like to utilize meetings and grand rounds to obtain ongoing CME and medical education.**
- **With industry, FERNE must find optimal avenue for educating practitioners of EM.**
- **FERNE is best served if multiple sources of industry funding be obtained for collaborative projects such as the FERNE Brain Illness and Injury Course (BIIC).**
- **With medical education organizations, FERNE can achieve educational session with the latest available technologies that minimize the limitations of remote learning.**

- **Although people like to learn and obtain CME at the same time, people will learn without CME if the information can be obtained with relative ease, such as delivery to email boxes.**
- **FERNE can develop materials that will address medico-legal issues such as how to conduct and document the neurological exam, how to document the medical decision making in ED neurological emergency patients. This could lead to lower malpractice rates for those who complete the course. It was pointed out that it is the desire of the EMA group that these types of materials be developed in collaboration with their EM practitioners.**
- **FERNE should find out how to deliver 10 minute presentations of information to EM practitioners.**
- **FERNE could write oral board cases that are specific to the main neurological emergencies that could be used by individuals or in EM residency programs.**
- **It was suggested that visual content would enhance all of the case-based content that FERNE provides. The NEJM visual materials was suggested as a model that could be utilized by *Annals of EM* or *Acad EM*.**
- **FERNE could write questions for the CORD-EM question bank that are specific to neurological emergencies patients**
- **The FERNE Brain Illness and Injury Course (BIIC) could be developed into a ANLS course with a complete curriculum that addresses the key concepts related to the most important neurological emergencies.**
- **The BIIC could focus on specific skills, such as how to interpret a bloody LP as compared to one that is indicative of a SAH, or how and when and why to do an opening pressure in patient who need and LP.**
- **Another skill that was identified is how and why and to what end hypertensive emergencies should be treated in ED patients with neurological emergencies.**
- **It was suggested that the BIIC include a session on how to localize a lesion using a systematic neurological exam.**
- **A neuropsych module for use by practitioners was suggested for development.**

- **A system for using a smart computer based testing and educational system such as the one developed by Ed Mussina, MD for education of all EM residents was discussed and approved by the attendees.**
- **It was suggested that EM residents do not much use text books as much as in the past, that Internet-based resources be developed, as well as podcasts be available for downloading and use.**
- **Residents also like to listen to the Buccata CDs (EMRAP) that have EM attendings discuss important clinical issues for use in the car or while traveling.**
- **Other sites that are of interest to residents include UptoDate and EMedHome, as well as sites accessed by Google. It was pointed out that some Internet sites have medical info that is not as clinically sound as that found in textbooks, even though textbooks are somewhat dated.**
- **It was pointed out that FERNE and EMRA are attempted to contact more residents via state ACEP and regional SAEM meetings.**
- **The issue of clinical policies and guidelines was addressed with ACEP past president R Suter, MD. It was pointed out that the most frequently hit sites on the ACEP.org site are the clinical policies. It was stated that most residents and practitioners were unaware of clinical policies, and that a grant could be written with the college to summarize 36 policies for use by EM residents over a three-year training program or by practitioners every three years, including those that address neurological emergencies.**
- **Several individuals were identified who might assist with the BIIC to be held on September 15, 2007 at MEMC:**
 - **S Vicario**
 - **C Lewendowski**
 - **S Huff**
 - **L Zun**
 - **D Wright**
 - **A Asimos**
 - **M Ross**
 - **H Prendergast**
 - **A Chang**

Research

- **It was suggested that FERNE attempt to obtain DoD funding to support research and educational efforts. This is important given that the field activities are similar to the educational efforts needed to educate paramedics who treat neurological emergency patients in the pre-hospital setting.**
- **FERNE could work with the NETT to support EM research and could educate based on the results of the trials conducted with the NETT.**
- **Research grants proposed included:**
 - **DoD grant collaborating with NAEMSP for pre-hospital and battlefield educational materials**
 - **CORD EM and EMRA collaboration grant to study BIIC with residents and competency**
 - **Grant with ACEP to present clinical policies**
 - **Federal grant to enhance FERNE website links to pubmed and NLM resources**
- **It was acknowledged that a group of interested young EM physicians could best collaborate in writing successful FERNE grants.**

FERNE Recognitions and Awards

FERNE/EMF Grant Recipients A Asimos, MD and M Ross, MD were recognized for their grants and achievements.

The recent Annals EM publication, SAEM best faculty award, and ACEP press release were recognized by FERNE and the audience in attendance.

The EMF and ACEP were specifically recognized for their support of FERNE and their willingness to support of the many high quality Directed Neurological Emergencies Grants that have been funded with their support. The college was also recognized for their support of the grant review process for the EMF/FERNE grants.

The willingness of EMRA to collaborate with FERNE, and the support of the college on the behalf of EMRA was recognized by FERNE.

FERNE past and present employees were recognized for their support of the organization:

A Schlichting, MD

S Eder, MD

C O'Neill, RN

C Sloan, MBA

The FERNE Executive Board and Advisory Boards were also recognized for their support of the organization.

Long-range Planning Meeting Supporters Recognition

The following supporters of the meeting were recognized, including:

Adam Williams Initiative

The Medicines Company

Concentric Medical

Emergency Medical Associates

The Clinical Decisions Consortium

Brigham/Women's Harvard

FERNE/UIC

GW/Best Practices

Mayo Clinics

Mount Sinai New York

Univ of Florida Jacksonville

Adam himself told of his TBI and coma, and his return to a productive life with aggressive treatment, and his foundation's desire to educate practitioners and support quality care for patients with TBI. It was pointed out the importance of the acute care provided in the pre-hospital and ED settings in improving patient outcomes, and the need to focus on EM in his efforts.