

TITLE: Opioid prescribing among emergency room providers

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RESEARCH PROJECT DESCRIPTION (brief overview of background, hypothesis, methods, role of medical student, funding and relevant publications -- SHOULD NOT EXCEED ~ 250 WORDS)

The opioid epidemic has been well publicized and presents continued challenges for the healthcare system. Pain is the chief complaint for many patients in the emergency department. Emergency providers encounter numerous different causes of pain. Acute issues such as fractures and biliary colic often lead to a course of opioid therapy. Opioid prescribing practices in this setting are not well defined. More complex patients such as those with chronic pain and drug seeking behavior present even more difficult challenges to the Emergency Medicine provider. Further research into emergency medicine opioid prescribing practices is needed.

The medical student will learn about quality and patient safety research. He/she will become familiar with quality projects. The medical student will learn how to perform a literature review and use this review to ask clinically important questions about opioid prescribing. He/she will learn to collect and analyze data using statistics as well as to present the data in a clinically meaningful way. The medical student should expect to generate a poster and ideally a manuscript for his/her work.