

TITLE: Opioid prescribing among surgical residents

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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. For many patients, the first exposure to opioids comes after surgery. Approximately 6% of these patients will continue use opioids at 90 days. Surgical residents are writing many of these prescriptions and many lack any formal training in opioid prescribing. There is wide variation in surgical resident prescribing practices. Appropriate prescribing practices are not well defined in the literature. Further research into surgical 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 surgical 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.