Background

- Only 2 medical centers in Uganda offer training for physicians to be anesthesiologists.
- Makerere University College of Health Sciences trains the highest number of physician anesthesiologists.
- With improved program development over the past several years, Makerere has graduated up to 8 new trainees per year.
- At present, case logs are not being used examined or utilized to distribute cases among trainees.

Objectives

- To analyze the cases that are being performed by new physician trainees at Makerere.
- To create a more comprehensive curriculum by setting minimal case requirements for training.

Methods

- Anesthesia trainees at Makerere University maintain a log of the cases they perform during their training.
- Among the pertinent information recorded in the case logs are:
  - patient age
  - surgical procedure and specialty
  - anesthetic technique
  - urgency of the procedure.
- Three 3rd year case logs were analyzed and compared to the program requirements set by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) in the United States.

Results

Makerere Trainee Case Log Averages vs. ACGME Minimum Standards

Results (continued)

- Preliminary analysis taken over an average of 16 months shows that trainees at Makerere already exceed ACGME minimum case requirements for a number of procedures:
  - Cesarean sections (mean = 69, ACGME min = 20)
  - Neurosurgical cases (mean = 36, ACGME min = 20)
  - Pediatric patients < 3 months old (mean = 13, ACGME min = 5).
  - Spinal, epidural (mean = 78, ACGME min = 40) and caudals are common, reflecting the high number of pediatric and obstetric cases.
  - Epidurals (mean = 9, ACGME min = 40) are performed less frequently due to an inability to adequately monitor patients post-operatively.
  - The small number of highly specialized surgical sub-specialties performed in Uganda limits the number of cardiothoracic cases (mean = 16) and major vascular cases being performed by anesthesia trainees.
  - Interestingly, a small number of cardiac cases are being done under full cardiopulmonary bypass (mean = 5) in a highly specialized, dedicated cardiac theater.

Conclusions

- Anesthesia trainees at Makerere are exposed to a diverse range of cases.
- The volume of pediatric, neurosurgical, obstetric, and general surgery cases is high, while other highly specialized fields are being performed in smaller numbers.
- Differences between Ugandan trainee case logs and ACGME standards primarily reflect the limited practice of certain surgical subspecialties in the region.
- As additional data is collected, the department of Anesthesiology at Makerere can reflect the limited practice of certain surgical subspecialties in the region.
- As additional data is collected, the department of Anesthesiology at Makerere can begin to institute policies to ensure adequate case numbers for trainees based on this regional data and promote a more tailored training curriculum.

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