

2012 Western Regional Emergency Medicine Symposium:

Hosted by Emergency Medicine Interest Group at
University of California Irvine School of Medicine in
collaboration with Keck School of Medicine of USC

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UCIEM+G

The University of California Irvine, School of Medicine Emergency Medicine Interest Group hosted the 2012 Western Regional Emergency Medicine Symposium in collaboration with Keck School of Medicine University of Southern California on September 22nd at the UC Irvine Student Conference Center. The symposium has been an annual tradition since emergency medicine (EM) physicians Dr. Warren Wiechmann and Dr. Brian Potts started it in 2004 when they were UC Irvine medical students. This year it featured didactics on student-relevant topics in EM, 9 different hands-on workshops where students practiced skills and discussed specialty topics within EM, and a residency fair with 9 California residency programs represented.

Dr. Mark Langdorf, the chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine at UCI School of Medicine, got the day started with his inspirational talk on the History of Emergency Medicine. Dr. Rais Vohra from the Department of EM at University of California, San Francisco proceeded to give an engaging talk on toxicology tricks. The workshops students attended included an ultrasound

workshop, led by Dr. Eric Mervis from UCI, where ultrasound machines were used to view some of the organ systems that EM physicians analyze the most, including the FAST exam, pulmonary ultrasound, deep vein thrombosis ultrasound, cardiac ultrasound and more. The international EM workshop, led by Jason Prystowsky from Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital Emergency Medicine and Medecins Sans Frontieres, discussed how training in EM can be used as a precursor to a career in global health, including emergency humanitarian aid in conflict zones and establishing sustainable projects in global health development in areas of poverty and post conflict/disaster. The pediatric EM workshop, led by Dr. Emily Rose from USC/LA County, taught students how to place an intraosseous line in a chicken leg. The eye emergencies workshop, led by Dr. Wirachin Hoonpongsimanont from UCI, offered opportunities for students to practice performing the ophthalmological exam, including measuring intraocular pressure, using the Tonopen, doing the Fluorescein stain, using the slit lamp and using the panophthalmoscope. The crash deliveries workshop, led by Dr. Jenny Jaque from



Figure 1. Dr. Langdorf starting the event with his inspirational talk on the History of Emergency Medicine.



Figure 2. Medical students and faculty in the audience listening to the keynote speaker..

USC/LA County, demonstrated how to perform obstetrical deliveries in emergency situations. The splinting in the EM workshop, led by Dr. John Hipskind from Kaweah Delta, taught techniques on how to splint in the ED using students as volunteers. The medical legal cases in EM workshop, led by Dr. Michael Bresler from Stanford/Kaiser, reviewed real emergency department charts involved in subsequent



Figure 3. Placing an intraosseous line using a chicken leg as a model during the pediatric workshop.



Figure 4. Medical students were able to ultrasound live models during the ultrasound workshop.

litigation and had students discussing how the cases could have been approached differently. The iPad apps for your EM rotation/residency workshop, led by Dr. Julie Youm from UCI, familiarized students with the iPad and apps that are used by the medical students and EM residents in the iMedEd initiative. The helicopter EMS workshop, led by Dr. Robert Katzer from UCI, gave a broad overview of helicopter aeromedical transport and areas covered included indications for its use, special considerations when providing care in an aircraft, different aircrafts commonly utilized, critical care ground transport, industry economics, and occupational hazards. A residency fair with residency directors from UCI, USC, UCSD, Loma Linda, UCLA-Olive View, UCSF Fresno, UCSF-SFGH, Alameda Highland, and Kaweah Delta was held during the first half of the day as an option for all students to attend. During lunch, Dr. Eric McCoy, from the Department of EM at UCI, delivered a lively talk on the critical student qualities necessary to be a team participant in EM or in any specialty in medicine. Students of all years in training benefited from the residency director panel, during which time students asked questions about applying to emergency medicine residency. Over 125 medical students from 14 different universities traveled to attend the symposium for the chance to learn more about emergency medicine and to network with physicians and fellow students who share a common passion.

The symposium was made possible by 30 volunteers and 20 physician instructors. The symposium was supported by the UC Irvine Department of Emergency Medicine, Keck School of Medicine at USC, UCI EMIG, and other donors. Please refer to www.uciemig.com for further details.



Figure 5. Medical students participating in the crash delivery workshop.