Palliative Medicine and Rehabilitation Consults

The first is ordering a Palliative Medicine or Inpatient Rehabilitation evaluation. The optimal way to request a consult is to call the physician directly and discuss the patient with them. Many of us do not call our consultants directly, and rely on the EHR and the nursing staff to communicate with our consultants, as outlined in the following paragraphs and screen shots.

In the MEDITECH Order Entry module there are options available to select "Consult Palliative Care" and "Consult Rehabilitation Admit", as shown below:

These two orders are being used by some of us to request Palliative Medicine or Rehabilitation consults, however, these orders do not initially go to the Palliative Medicine or Rehabilitation physicians. Although the appropriate physician will eventually receive the request, when this type of request is made there have been delays in evaluation.

The most efficient route to obtaining a Palliative Medicine or Rehabilitation evaluation in the EHR is to request a Physician Consult from one of the Palliative Medicine or Rehabilitation physicians. When the request is placed through the Consult Physician order in MEDITECH, it goes to the physician and reduces the time for the evaluation to occur, if the requesting provider has not called the consulting physician. (See below.)
Rounding Sets

The second topic of the week is Rounding Sets. Rounding Sets are short order sets that have been developed for a number of areas that contain commonly used tests and procedures when we are seeing our patients on daily rounds. In my discussions with many of our physicians and midlevels they are aware of these sets. The Rounding Sets are collections of commonly used orders and allow us to be more efficient.

I encourage you to browse through them the next time you are rounding and need to order morning labs or procedures. These sets can be accessed by searching for “Rounding” in the EHR Order Entry module, as shown below:

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at 725-0265.

Thanks to all of you for your continued support and use of our EHR.

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