

**Curbside Consultations
Workshop**
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Curbsides

- Functions
 - Improve access to subspecialty expertise
 - Improve timely management of time-sensitive condition

Curbsides

- Functions
 - Diagnostic issues: provide accurate diagnosis, avoid misdiagnosis, confirm suspected diagnoses, or narrow differential diagnosis; prompt referral for more urgent care
 - Therapeutic issues: initiate appropriate therapy, avoid inappropriate medication use

Curbsides

- Functions
 - Offer reassurance to the clinician
 - Sate curiosity
 - Improve communication with subspecialists

Curbside Review

- 270 curbside consults reviewed from August through October 2016
- 7 attending physicians, 2 fellows, 1 physician assistant, rotating resident
- Mean patient age 6.18 years (range 0-72 years)

Curbside Review

- Most consults come from:
 - Emergency Department (25%) and pediatrician (21%), general dermatologist (8%), and family physician (6%)
 - Other sources: nurses, allergists, oncologists, personal acquaintances, pediatric dermatologists
- Indications: 55% diagnostic, 45% therapeutic

Photos during Curbsides

- How often were photos included as part of curbsides?
 - 59-70% include images as part of evaluation
- How often did having photos affect decision-making?
 - 36% affected diagnosis, 35% affected therapy, 29% neither
- How were photos conveyed as part of the curbside?
 - 47% texted, 37% emailed, 16% EHR

Advice on Sending Curbsides

1. History
 - Including relevant details is helpful
 - Medication history
2. Exam
 - Take good in-focus photos: overview, regional, close-up (“finger method”)
 - Use a secure method for transmitting photos
3. Assessment and Plan:
 - Understand that there are limitations to photographic evaluation; sometimes patients need to be seen in person, especially if any recommendations provided don’t seem to be helping as expected

The chief complaint can be misleading

Sometimes, the history gives you a clue as to what it is even before you get the picture

Even blurry pictures can sometimes be enough

Sometimes the diagnosis is obvious

Make sure you're looking at
the right thing

When one photo isn't always
enough

Sometimes a picture brings
on more questions

Even pictures of pictures can be worth something

Sometimes we're able to manage things remotely even before the patient gets in for the appointment

If we're not sure, we might be able to narrow things down and we'll recommend some tests

Sometimes we'll just end up confirming exactly what you think it is

Sometimes you see the photo and we just have to see the patient in person

Summary

- Curbsides can be useful
 - We can sometimes avoid filling up appointment slots unnecessarily
 - We can sometimes help you get an answer sooner
 - We can sometimes teach you something useful in the process
- To do that:
 - Include history and relevant details
 - Send more than one photo (overview, regional, close-up)
 - Send in-focus images
 - Use a secure method for transmitting photos
- Limitations
 - Sometimes we will provide some guidance on further testing or interim treatment
 - Sometimes we just don't know and need to see the patient in person

Thank you
