

Increasing biopsy-site photography uploaded to patients EMR

Dermatology Residency Program

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BACKGROUND

Wrong-site surgeries are one of the major causes of medical lawsuits

Photo-documentation of biopsies is essential for dermatologists and dermatologic surgeons to precisely locate biopsy sites at the time of treatment

Lack of photographs decreases clinic efficiency leading to potential delays in care while the correct site is identified, increased wait times for other patients in outpatient clinics, and higher risk of wrong-site surgery

Patients often cannot identify the biopsy site on themselves

Consistent documentation with high-quality photographs uploaded to patient's EMR significantly decreases the risk of wrong site surgery and contributes to a more efficient clinic without potential delays in treatment.

AIM STATEMENT

95% of non-genital biopsies performed by dermatology residents have an appropriate photograph uploaded to the correct patient's medical record

MUSC Pillar: Increase Access Composite

METHODS/INTERVENTION

Education to dermatology residents regarding sustainable protocol for photo-documentation of non-genital biopsy site in the dermatology outpatient clinics

RESULTS

Total Biopsy Pictures Taken During February

Total Biopsies	72
Percent Biopsies with Picture	98.6%

Non-Genital Biopsy Pictures Taken During February

Total Biopsies	71
Percent Biopsies with Picture	100%



The picture shows a clearly identified biopsy site with good visualization of anatomic site without distractors.

CONCLUSIONS

Our specific aim of having photo-documentation of 95% of non-genital biopsies was met with a result of 100%

One biopsy during the month of February did not have a photo taken due to it being a genital lesion and patient declining photograph of lesion

BARRIERS:

- Although genital biopsies were excluded from our goal, patients declining pictures of these lesions could lead to complications of identification of these lesions at time of treatment
- Technology can pose a barrier as there are times when Haiku is not functioning properly which prevents biopsy photos from being uploaded to the patient chart at the time of biopsy

NEXT STEPS

Continue emphasizing quality biopsy photos and educate incoming residents on importance of quality photos