Quality and Safety Innovation Challenge
2013-14 Program Announcement

Dear DOM faculty, trainees, and staff—

We are thrilled to announce the Department of Medicine’s 4th annual Quality and Safety Innovation Challenge (QSIC). Please review the program information below, which outlines the goals, project categories, and important timelines.

What is the QSIC and how does it work?
The QSIC offers an opportunity for DOM faculty, trainees, and staff to work collaboratively in teams over the course of 9 months to design and implement innovative solutions aimed at improving patient care. Participating teams will be asked to submit a brief project proposal (attached separately) and encouraged to carry out a performance improvement project in any number of areas, including:

1) **Quality Improvement**: improving the quality of care we provide, including adherence to clinical guidelines, achieving quality metrics, increased access to clinical services, etc.
2) **Patient Safety**: creating a safer environment by promoting medication safety, teamwork and communication, a culture of safety, follow-up of pending tests, etc.
3) **Choosing Wisely & Value-based Care**: promoting efficient resource utilization and reducing unnecessary diagnostic testing, procedures and/or other treatments, Choosing Wisely recommended metrics, etc.
4) **The Patient Experience**: fostering a patient-centered environment, engaging patients and their families in care, creative solutions to increasing patient satisfaction, etc.

Participating teams will then design and implement a results-oriented improvement project. They will develop ways to streamline data collection, develop and test improvement changes, and assess progress on a continual basis. At the completion of the QSIC, teams will have the opportunity to present their work and celebrate their achievements at our annual spring Quality & Safety Symposium. The symposium will also include an award ceremony that will recognize the highest rated projects by our award committee. We also hope this program provides an opportunity to disseminate changes on a local and national level and turn successful projects into peer-reviewed publications.

What are the rating criteria for project award selection?

1) Trainee engagement and multidisciplinary teams
2) The magnitude of the problem or quality/safety gap in care
3) The nature and scope of the innovation
4) Generalizability
   - Utilizing improvement processes that could be applicable to other services and practices within DOM, our respective hospitals, and/or other organizations
5) Thoroughness of project evaluation
6) Potential sustainability of results
What are the timelines?

**September 27th**: announcement and launch of the QSIC.

**September 27th – November 15th**: team formation; brainstorming ideas for improvement projects; choosing an area of focus, and outlining the details of the project, including improvement goals.

**November 15th**: DEADLINE for submission of brief project proposal form (attached separately).

**November – May**: Project implementation, including data collection and analysis.

**May TBD**: DEADLINE for submission of a final project summary (details later).

**June TBD**: Quality & Safety Symposium celebration, poster presentations and award ceremony.

Who can I contact with questions about the QSIC or my improvement project?

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