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Practice inquiry

Amiesha S Panchal

Tufts University, Cambridge Health Alliance Malden, Family Medicine Center, Malden, MA, USA

Corresponding author: Dr Amiesha Panchal, Cambridge Health Alliance & Tufts University School of Medicine, Family Medicine Residency Program, Malden, MA, USA. E-mail: amiesha.panchal@gmail.com

Practice Inquiry (PI) is a small group, on-going learning process designed to enhance clinical judgment and enable practice change in the primary care setting. Since 2002, over 500 U.S. primary care clinicians have participated in office-based settings and four residency programs have incorporated PI into their curricula. Meetings focus on individual case complexity and the uncertainty engendered in primary care clinicians - specifically, patients that present diagnostic, therapeutic, prognostic, and/or communication challenges. Colleagues are guided in querying each other in non-threatening, imaginative ways to elicit new inputs to clinical judgment in five key areas (clinical experience, current evidence, patient context, clinician context, and the patient-clinician relationship.) Through this collaborative reasoning, the group develops new perspectives on the original uncertainty and strategies for moving forward with the patient.

Subsequent case follow up helps clinicians to calibrate judgment and reflect on how cognitive and affective biases impact clinical reasoning. This presentation will include descriptions of existing PI programs, group structure and process, program evaluations, and attributes of successful groups

