The majority of new patient admissions in our tertiary care pediatric hospital happen after 4pm. Due to this, opportunity for active medical student participation in new admissions (performing H&Ps, directing patient evaluation and management, contingency planning, participating in handovers) can be limited. Increased number of learners on inpatient ward teams has also meant fewer new admits per student. The nighttime environment provides a possible solution to these challenges, and has already demonstrated an educational benefit in resident training. Furthermore, the night float rotation provides unique learning opportunities and circumstances not commonly encountered in the daytime setting. We therefore set out to create a novel clinical rotation and feasibility trial of a nighttime medical student rotation.

The goals of this project were to:
1. Provide/quantify opportunity for students to acquire skills in the nighttime environment
   - Admissions
   - Handoffs
   - Cross-covering
2. Serve as a feasibility rotation for EPA future integration

**Objectives**

**Methods**

**Design:** Students registered for course participation through the Department of Pediatrics. They were assigned to Team 4 of the DCH Night Float System where they cared for patients Sunday – Thursday, 5:30 PM - 7:30 AM

**Primary Outcome:**
- Number of new admissions per sub-I (comparing day and night sub-interns)

**Secondary Outcomes:**
- Number of faculty evaluations per student
- Direct feedback on: I-PASS handoffs, presentations, and order placement

**Conclusions**

- Compared to analogous daytime sub-interns, the nighttime student received additional opportunities in the admissions process.
- A nighttime medical student rotation is achievable but requires appropriate infrastructure.
- Need to refine formal faculty evaluation distribution process to nighttime faculty, despite receiving direct feedback.
- EPAs can likely be incorporated as part of future assessment opportunities.
- Further collaboration with outside institutions would provide insight into widespread feasibility.

**Background**

The Pediatric Ward Night Float Sub-Internship: An Untapped Opportunity for Medical Student Education

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**Doernbecher Children's Hospital Night Float System**

**References**