UPenn Emergency Department Academic Associates (AA) Program

What is the AA Program?
• Emergency Department based program that supports ED research
• Appoints over 20 volunteer students to consent and collect patient data
• Primarily supports ED faculty and resident research projects
• External departments will be considered on a case-by-case basis
• Funded projects may be subjected to a cost assessment discussion with the Medical Director

Who are the AA’s?
• Student volunteers primarily pooled from the Penn Post-Bacc Program
• Students pursuing Medical School
• Interested in research and/or Emergency Medicine
• Seeking exposure to clinical environments

Program Capabilities
• Screen patients for research projects in the ED at HUP and PPMC
• Notify study teams when eligible patients are present in the ED
• Obtain informed consent from ED patients eligible for research
• Enroll patients in minimal risk studies (e.g. patient surveys, biomarker studies)

Program Hours
• HUP: Monday-Sunday 7am-12am
• PPMC: Monday-Saturday 7am-12am

Program Snapshot
• Support research in the Emergency Departments at HUP and PPMC
• 7 clinical studies actively enrolling through the program
• Partnering with various hospital departments outside Emergency Medicine for research projects

Requesting AA Services
• All requests for services submitted through the Program Coordinator
• Request will be approved by the Medical Director
• Requests should include a summary of the proposed project, details of data collection, and preliminary consent form

Program Contacts
• Medical Director: Benjamin Abella, MD, MPhil
• Program Coordinator: Barbara Biney (Barbara.Biney@pennmedicine.upenn.edu)

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