Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery: Core EPA #18

Assessing patients with dysphonia (JC)

a. Providing surgical management for patients with dysphonia (SC)

Key Features:
- The observation of this EPA is divided into three parts: patient assessments including diagnostic endoscopy, objective voice testing and aerodynamic testing; procedures at the junior level of Core (rigid and flexible laryngoscopies); and procedures at the senior level of Core (vocal fold injection, microlaryngoscopy, laser/debridement and thyroplasty)

Assessment plan:

Part A: Patient Assessment
Supervisor does assessment based on direct or indirect observation

Use Form 1. Form collects information on:
- Age group: pediatric; adult
- Type: vocal cord paralysis; vocal cord lesion; functional voice disorder; other

Collect 4 observations of achievement
- At least one pediatric
- At least one adult
- At least one with vocal cord paralysis
- At least one with vocal cord lesion
- At least one with functional voice disorder

Part B: Procedure – Junior Core
Supervisor does assessment based on direct observation

Use Form 2. (O-score criteria) Form collects information on:
- procedure: rigid laryngoscopy; flexible laryngoscopy; microlaryngoscopy

Collect 5 observations of achievement
- at least 2 rigid laryngoscopy
- at least 2 flexible laryngoscopy
- at least one microlaryngoscopy

Part C: Procedure – Senior Core
Supervisor does assessment based on direct observation
Use Form 2. (O-score criteria) Form collects information on:
- procedure: vocal fold injection; microlaryngoscopy; laser/debridement; thyroplasty

Collect 5 observations of achievement
- at least one of each procedure

Relevant milestones (Part A):

1. **F ME 1.4.3** Apply knowledge of the physics of sound, voice, and speech production

2. **C ME 1.4.2** Apply a broad base and depth of knowledge in clinical and biomedical sciences to the medical and surgical management of the breadth of patient presentations in Oto-HNS
   - Infectious and inflammatory conditions
   - Trauma
   - Benign and malignant tumours
   - Neurologic voice disorders
   - The professional voice

3. **C ME 1.4.3** Apply a broad base and depth of knowledge in clinical and biomedical sciences as they apply to the diagnostic techniques/procedures relevant to Oto-HNS
   - Principles of diagnostic endoscopy as relevant to adult and pediatric patients
   - Objective voice testing, and electrophysiological techniques
   - Aerodynamic testing
   - Assessment methods used specifically in children

4. **C ME 1.4.4** Apply a broad base and depth of knowledge in clinical and biomedical sciences as they apply to the therapeutic techniques/procedures relevant to Oto-HNS
   - Principles of therapeutic procedures related to both endoscopic and open approaches
   - Principles of laser therapy of the larynx

5. **C ME 2.2.6** Perform and interpret findings of office and/or clinic based exams
   - Voice and airway analysis

6. **C ME 2.3.2** Address the impact of the medical condition on the patient’s ability to pursue life goals and purposes

7. **C ME 2.3.3** Share concerns (in a constructive and respectful manner) with patients and their families about their goals of care when they are not felt to be achievable

8. **C ME 3.1.2** Integrate all sources of information to develop a procedural or therapeutic plan that is safe, patient-centred, and considers the risks and benefits of all approaches

9. **C ME 3.2.1** Obtain informed consent for complex medical and surgical procedures and therapies

10. **C ME 4.1.2** Establish plans for ongoing care, taking into consideration the patient’s clinical state, circumstances, preferences, and actions, as well as available resources, best practices, and research evidence

11. **C COM 1.5.1** Recognize when strong emotions (such as anger, fear, anxiety, or sadness) are impacting an interaction and respond appropriately
12  **C COM 2.2.1** Manage the flow of challenging patient encounters, including those with angry, distressed, or excessively talkative individuals

13  **C HA 1.3.3** Promote risk reduction through smoking cessation, responsible alcohol use, UVA/UVB protection, and/or promotion of HPV vaccination for girls and boys