

AI-00195 Morbidity and mortality conference

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Morbidity and mortality conference

A morbidity and mortality conference (M&M conference) is a meeting held by healthcare professionals to review cases where patients experienced adverse outcomes or unexpected events. The purpose of the conference is to learn from these experiences, identify ways to improve patient care, and prevent similar incidents from happening in the future.

Typically, the conference is attended by members of the healthcare team who were involved in the case, including physicians, nurses, and other staff members. During the conference, the team discusses the details of the case, including the patient's medical history, the care that was provided, and the outcomes. The discussion is often led by a moderator who helps to guide the conversation and ensure that all relevant information is covered.

The goal of the conference is to identify areas where the care could have been improved and to develop strategies for preventing similar incidents in the future. This might involve changes to protocols, additional training for staff members, or other interventions aimed at improving the quality of care. By analyzing adverse events and identifying opportunities for improvement, the M&M conference helps to promote a culture of safety and continuous learning within the healthcare organization.

What are the steps?

The specific steps of a morbidity and mortality (M&M) conference may vary depending on the healthcare organization, but generally, the process includes the following:

1. Identify the case: A case is identified for review based on a number of factors, such as the severity of the outcome or the complexity of the care provided. The case may be identified by the healthcare team or brought to their attention by a supervisor or patient advocate.
2. Collect data: The healthcare team gathers all relevant data related to the case, including medical records, test results, and any relevant policies or guidelines.
3. Present the case: At the M&M conference, a designated member of the healthcare team presents the case and the details surrounding the adverse event. This may include a timeline of events, a summary of the care provided, and any contributing factors or complications.
4. Discuss the case: The healthcare team engages in a discussion of the case, asking questions and exploring the factors that may have contributed to the adverse outcome. This may involve a review of relevant policies or guidelines, a discussion of team dynamics, or an examination of individual decision-making.
5. Identify opportunities for improvement: Based on the discussion of the case, the healthcare team identifies areas where the care provided could have been improved. This may include changes to protocols, training, or other interventions aimed at improving the quality of care.
6. Develop an action plan: The healthcare team develops an action plan to implement the identified improvements, and assigns responsibility for each step of the plan. The plan is documented and shared with relevant stakeholders.
7. Follow-up: The healthcare team follows up on the action plan to ensure that the improvements are implemented and to monitor the impact on patient care.

The goal of a morbidity and mortality conference is to promote a culture of safety and continuous learning within the healthcare organization, and to identify and address areas where the care provided can be improved to prevent similar adverse events from occurring in the future.