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NEUROSURGICAL HANDOVERS AND STANDARDS FOR EMERGENCY CARE

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CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-009-54845-8 — Neurosurgical Handovers and Standards for Emergency Care
Simon Lammy, Jennifer Brown
Frontmatter
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Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
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Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment,
a department of the University of Cambridge.

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education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009548458

DOI: 10.1017/9781009548502

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When citing this work, please include a reference to the DOI 10.1017/9781009548502

First published 2024

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

ISBN 978-1-009-54845-8 Paperback
ISSN 2755-0656 (online)
ISSN 2755-0648 (print)

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Neurosurgical Handovers and Standards for Emergency Care

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DOI: 10.1017/9781009548502
First published online: December 2024

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Abstract: One of the biggest challenges as a neurosurgical trainee is to master the handover. This requires developing an organisational efficiency to concisely relay relevant patient information to a suitably qualified person to execute a given task. A trainee can work extremely hard during an on-call, making suitable decisions, implementing previous plans to perfection and covering slack in a team. But if the presentation of this work is unclear then it undoes a lot of that hard work and generates an impression of a trainee being disorganised. Success in a handover requires an understanding of whom you are talking to, what you are saying, how you are saying it and if the way you are communicating gains and maintains interest. Above all a handover should ensure the smooth continuity of care of a patient.

Keywords: handover, organisation, efficiency, robust, honesty

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ISBNs: 9781009548458 (PB), 9781009548502 (OC)
ISSNs: 2755-0656 (online), 2755-0648 (print)

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