rescue resources to the demographics of injury and illness within the park.

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Establishing a Regional Education Collaboration Among Residencies in Wilderness Medicine Education

Background.—In the Midwest region, there are few opportunities to become involved with wilderness medicine education, and much of the valuable learning in the field comes through collaboration. In an effort to embrace this collaborative spirit, emergency medicine residents in Michigan have established the Wilderness Medicine Quarterly Lecture Rounds. This is a consortium among wilderness medicine groups at emergency medicine residency programs in Michigan.

Objective.—The goal is to provide a continuing source of quality wilderness medicine education and an opportunity to connect and work with other like-minded medical providers. Moreover, this example may serve as a model for other geographical areas.

Methods.—Each quarter, a wilderness medicine education day consisting of lectures and hands-on activities, is hosted by one of the participating residencies. The lectures are based on the core topics established by the Wilderness Medical Society's Fellowship of the Academy of Wilderness Medicine (FAWM) curriculum, and participating residents receive FAWM credit. The learning techniques incorporated in these courses combine multiple elements, including traditional lectures, small groups with hands-on practice, and simulation scenarios. The participants were surveyed to evaluate the program.

Results.—At the meetings this year, hosted at Michigan emergency medicine residency programs, residents, students, and faculty from several institutions across the region were in attendance. Lectures were presented by attendings and residents from the various residency programs in the morning, and hands-on outdoor courses on land navigation and orienteering, splinting, and building litters and carries were held in the afternoon. Surveys of the program were overwhelmingly positive, and attendees responded that they would plan to attend future lecture days.

Conclusions.—This collaboration offers a valuable learning tool for those involved in wilderness medicine in our region to improve their skills and knowledge while also providing a way for those new to the field to become involved.

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Alcohol and Watercraft Injuries in the Great Lake States: Who Is the Intoxicated Boater, and What Are They Doing to Our Waterways?

Background.—Numerous studies have shown the deleterious effects of mixing alcohol and boating. Despite this, alcohol use while boating still appears to be very prevalent in the Great Lakes states. The behavior characteristics common to boaters who choose to drink versus boaters who apply sober boating practices are not documented in the medical literature.

Objective.—The purpose of this study is to examine the epidemiology of documented boating accidents in the Great Lakes states from 2002 to 2011. The data will be used to evaluate the behaviors of intoxicated boaters, and determine who is at risk and what interventions can be done to make our waterways safer.

Methods.—This is a retrospective analysis performed on reported boating accidents that occurred in the Great Lake States from 2002 to 2011. Data were gathered from publicly available resources including the United States Coast Guard Boating Accident Report database and the Department of Natural Resources. Overall, there were 1290 accidents involving 1472 vessels with 270 fatalities reported in our analysis. Descriptive statistics are reported using χ^2 and Fisher exact tests to assess our endpoints previously described.

Results.—Comparing the intoxicated boater to the sober boater at the time of accident shows that intoxicated boaters are more likely to use illicit drugs than the sober boater (17.8% vs 0.3%), less likely to wear a personal flotation device (71.2% vs 47.9%), more likely to get into accidents at excessive speeds (10% vs 1.7%), actually had more boater experience (54.1% vs 42.2% had more than 100 hours of boater experience) but had less formal boater education (65.5% vs 77.9%), had more people on board (16% vs 11.8% had more than 4 on board), and were more likely to die secondary to trauma (30.5% vs 13.3%). Intoxicated boaters were also more likely to be boating, swimming, or cruising at the time of the accident.

Conclusions.—By identifying which boaters are most likely to cause significant accidents and fatalities, we can work to make our waterways safer. We advocate increased fines and penalties for boaters caught operating or riding in a boat while intoxicated, increased monitoring for intoxicated boaters, and increased educational and remediation programs. Given the results of this paper, we believe that monitoring boaters and enforcing the law on our waterways should be done more effectively so that our limited resources can be better utilized.

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