

The Ideal Intervention Paper (IIP) Project: Progress through 2007

Fr. Henry G. Heffernan, SJ, and Rev. John J. (Jack) Gleason, DMin

February 11, 2008

The Ideal Intervention Paper (IIP) has been introduced into CPE curricula in several accredited centers in the East Central ACPE Region and other Regions.

Eleven chaplain interns at St. Vincent Hospital, Indianapolis under the supervision of Jack Gleason, working with Frank Impicciche, completed IIPs based upon the traditional group presentation of their verbatims in two Level 1 extended units (Winter 2006 and Winter 2007) as part of their CPE curricula.

Four chaplain residents at Clarian Health, Indianapolis under the supervision of Yoke Lye Lim completed IIPs and offered their critiques of the exercise in a Level 2 CPE program (Summer 2007).

Two chaplain residents at Lutheran Hospital of Indiana, Fort Wayne under the supervision of John Peterson and Joseph Viti completed IIPs based on their verbatims.

Chaplain residents at Children's Hospital Medical Center in Cincinnati under the supervision of Judy Ragsdale were introduced to the verbatim-based IIP exercise in the fall of 2007.

Two chaplain residents at Bellevue Hospital Center in New York City under the supervision of Paul Steinke completed IIPs in the fall of 2007.

The eleven St. Vincent Hospital interns produced IIPs with the following central issue identifiers: fear of surgery, patient and family guardedness, patient need to express spiritual and emotional concerns, infant death, respiratory distress, guilt regarding spouse's death, coding infant, undiagnosed illness, end of life issues, sudden death, and pastoral etiquette (regarding the presence of the family pastor).

The four Clarian residents' central issue identifiers were: triangulation (by an uninvited pastor), advocacy for the hospital, end of life issues (twice), extreme pain (twice), amputation issues, and faith as a resource. (Each resident's IIP had multiple identifiers.)

The IIP protocol has been revised by chaplain Gleason, based on feedback from these preliminary studies. (That revision is the rendition enclosed in this mailing.) Refining instructions for CPE students on how to undertake the writing of IIPs continues to be a work in process, in which input from other supervisors is most welcome.

The two IIPs developed by students under John Peterson were found to be helpful model examples for other CPE programs. Several examples of IIPs prepared by students, to illustrate what IIPs can look like, are being prepared and are planned to be accessible through the ACPE Research Network web site: www.acperesearch.net.