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Constructing a Collaborative Neuroscience Hospitalist Program

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In the decades of developing hospitalist programs across the nation, multiple models of care have arisen, from the more traditional hospitalist medicine program to surgicalist and laborist programs. As training programs have implemented work restrictions, hospitals have had to look to alternatives. At Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, WA, a 400-bed, Level 1 trauma center owned by the county and operated by the University of Washington, we have developed a multidisciplinary solution to the care of neurologically ill patients. The model consists of 5 services: a primary neurosurgical team, a neurocritical care service, a neurohospitalist team, a perioperative medicine team, and a medicine consult service. In this report we describe the key elements of program development, costs, and anticipated return on investment.