

Winter Business Roundtable 2006



ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Alistair Erskine, MD

DOIM Academic Hospitalist Service
Chief Medical Information Officer
VCU Health System
Richmond, VA

With family from Argentina and Scotland, Dr. Erskine spent his formative years in England, France and Spain. He moved to the United States to study philosophy at the University of Virginia and subsequently focused efforts on preparing for medical school. He completed undergraduate medical training at VCU School of Medicine and continued on at Brown University (Providence, RI) for a combined Internal Medicine and Pediatric residency program.

After finishing residency, he began practice as an Internal Medicine hospitalist at VCU Health System and concomitantly a Pediatric hospitalist at Bon Secours Health System. He was appointed Associate Program Director for the Department of internal medicine residency program and created a new housestaff educational rotation to improve the training program's ability to teach and assess system-based practices for residents. Changes to the admission algorithm of Internal Medicine patients had a statistically and clinically significant impact on ambulance diversion times and Emergency Department length of stays.

While continuing to work as a hospitalist, Dr. Erskine found that information technology had intercalated into almost every aspect of patient care. He was appointed Chief Medical Information Officer at VCU Health System to translate clinical needs into IT specifications and represent physicians in the ongoing development of the electronic health record. Most recently, he was elected to the MCV Physician Board of Directors. He continues to teach housestaff on medicine wards and serve as the Medicine Admission Attending during clinical time.