

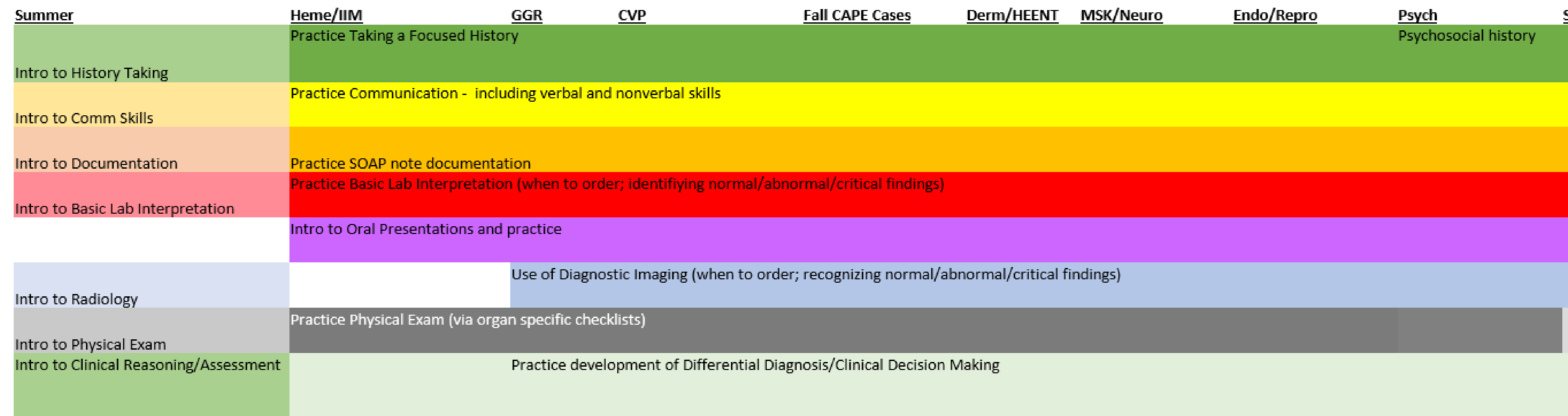
# Shaping Clinicians beyond the Textbook: An Interactive, Novel Format For Case-Based Learning

Kate LaPorta, MHS, PA-C, Amy Akerman, MPAS, PA-C, Kelsey Dougherty, MMSc, PA-C & Denise Ogden, MPAS, PA-C

University of Colorado, Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, CO

## Background

- Case-based learning (CBL) is widely used in medical programs with 31% of Physician Assistant (PA) programs using CBL as the primary mode of teaching clinical decision-making.<sup>3</sup>
- To bridge learning gaps identified in the novel Colorado Curriculum at the University of Colorado Child Health Associate/Physician Assistant (CHA/PA) Program, a case development team was tasked with creating a standardized case format to be utilized across the curriculum.



Timeline showing Colorado Curriculum blocks as they intersect with developmental milestones and introduction of new skills during case time.

## Novel PPOR Case Format

- This novel case format is called Patient, Provider, Observer, Reporter (PPOR) and it utilizes role-playing with designated tasks for each role to achieve integration and practice of clinical concepts and skills spanning the curriculum.
- Cases are tied to the program's developmental competencies and milestones, ensuring learners are practicing skills appropriate for their level of knowledge.
- This novel approach is modifiable for any health professions program and can also be used in a virtual setting.
- The format also includes a standardized yet adaptable debrief PowerPoint, to guide case time with learners during their didactic training.

## Future Plans

- The PPOR format and developmental timeline was introduced in the 2021-2022 academic year.
- In the 2022-2023 academic year, the team plans to explain the PPOR format and developmental timeline to learners at the start of the program to encourage their investment in the format.
- In future years, the team plans to query learners about this format, and assess the success of implementation on learners' performance in standardized assessments.

## References

1. Case-Based Learning and its Application in Medical and Health-Care Fields: A Review of Worldwide Literature - [doi: 10.4137/JMECD.S20377](https://doi.org/10.4137/JMECD.S20377)
2. iCBLS: An Interactive Case-Based Learning System for Medical Education - <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijmedinf.2017.11.004>
3. The Association Between Deep Learning Approach and Case-Based Learning - <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12909-019-1516-z>



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
Physician Assistant Program

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS