Shaping Clinicians beyond the Textbook: An Interactive, Novel Format For Case-Based Learning
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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.3

• 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.

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
2. iCBLS: An Interactive Case-Based Learning System for Medical Education - https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jimmedinf.2017.11.004