

Delivering Chalk Talks



Watch the FacDev in 5 Video featuring Dr. Caitlin Dietsche, Director of the Clinician Educator Pathway



5 KEY TAKEAWAYS

1

Choose Relevant and Focused Topics

- Select a topic directly related to a patient or question from clinical practice.
- Narrow content to 2 or 3 high-yield points to maintain focus and impact within a 10–15 minute timeframe.

2

Plan and Organize the Visual Component

- Prepare a visual framework before starting your chalk talk.
- Use lists, diagrams, tables, or stick figures to help learners retain information by connecting it to a clear visual aid.

3

Engage Learners Early

- Start with a hook that resonates with shared emotions or experiences.
- Make the session conversational by encouraging learners to share their knowledge and ask questions.

4

Save and Share the Visuals

- Encourage learners to take a picture as a reference for future use or when they want to teach the topic themselves.
- Capture a picture of the board for your own records.

5

Adapt to the Learning Environment

- Be flexible with the timing of your chalk talk to accommodate clinical demands.
- Coordinate with learners to find the best time for teaching and adjust as needed.

Dive Deeper

Chalk Talks in the Clinical Learning Environment ([Acad Med 2023](#))

A Primer for Developing Chalk Talks ([ATS Scholar 2023](#))

Chalk Talks for the Clinical Setting: Evaluation of a Medical Education Workshop for Fellows ([MedED Portal 2024](#))



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