

# Medical Education Interest Group Newsletter

## Has the COVID Pandemic Changed Clinical Skills Teaching for the Better?

February, 2021



### Notes from Meeting



Thank you to all of those who came to our February meeting, where Dr Emily Unwin spoke to us about how the clinical skills team at Warwick Medical School has adapted their teaching as a result of the COVID pandemic. She eloquently shared with us many of the lessons the clinical skills team has learned over this past year, and what they have found to be best practices in this ever-changing educational environment.

Some of the major ways in which clinical skills has been adapted during the pandemic has been to:

#### 1. Use a flipped classroom approach

- This approach relies on students using and engaging in asynchronous material and online resources before their live face-to-face session. The face-to-face session can then be used for engaging discussions and application of concepts.
- A flipped classroom also allows students to re-visit learning materials, gives learners flexibility and gives students more options to progress at their preferred learning pace.

#### 2. Increase the use of online materials

- Interactive workbooks on Lt
- Annotated videos in H5P
- Quizzes that allow students to learn, apply and test their understanding

#### 3. Integrate outside resources into the provided online learning opportunities

- [Clinical Key](#)
- [Speaking Clinically](#) (900+ patient interviews)
- YouTube videos

#### 4. Adjust face-to-face sessions

- There is a maximum of 8 students to 1 staff member (previously, could be up to 20 students per staff member)
- Requiring students prepare with online materials before the session allows the session to focus on the hands-on aspect of clinical skills practice

Overall, Emily's conclusion was that YES! this pandemic, albeit challenging and growth-inspiring for educators, has created a better learning experience for our students. This unique year has required that we all evolve to meet the needs of our learners, and in many cases has done so in such a way that our students are experiencing an improved educational journey.

### Upcoming Events

#### Next meeting:

March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021

1400 – MS Teams

#### Professor Peter Abrahams

**Topic: Thoughts on Anatomy Education: Quo Vadis for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century?**

### Quote of the Month:

*“Research suggests that the flipped classroom creates an environment whereby students attain increased ability to initiate, engage and lead discussions with peers and facilitators.”*

- *Journal of Higher Education*

### Research Article Spotlight:

[Towards the optimal use of video recordings to support the flipped classroom in medical school basic sciences education](#)

Bordes et al., (2020), *Medical Education Online*, 26:1-8.

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