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How we integrate pathology in the preclinical medical curriculum using the Bond Virtual Hospital app

Aim: Medical students find the transition from preclinical learning to clinical rotations as quite stressful. Case Based Learning (CBL) using the Bond Virtual Hospital (BVH) app in our new undergraduate medical program has enabled a smoother transition – in part through explicit correlation between basic science and clinical applications. This process requires team work between skilled facilitators. This will also highlight the effective usage of mobile app in adult learning.

Method: In this integrated educational approach, the audience will experience a Bond Virtual Hospital ward round and learner's feedback. This will follow a faculty led 'debrief' and learners personal experience on this 'virtual teaching app'. Participants can reflect on this experience of integrating the scholar and scientist, practitioner and health professionalism themes of the medical curriculum. Finally, participants will consider the qualities and training required for effective educators, delivering this holistic learning.

Results: Workshop will give a platform for the participants to discuss how linkages can be made between foundational year basic sciences with clinical knowledge in clinical care. Learners will share their experience on whether this tool improves their clinical reasoning and prepares them for ward work. Discussion will be shared between the participants, facilitators and the medical students on the qualities of facilitators for effective inter-professional teaching

Conclusions: The workshop will consider how CBL can be used to encourage students to apply foundation science knowledge into clinical relevance using virtual ward rounds. It will also explore whether the usage of mobile app is helpful in students learning in this modern age of technology. Feedback of medical students and facilitators on this learning method looks promising.

Biography

Neelam Doshi is a locum staff specialist in Microbiology at the Gold Coast University Hospital, where she is active in laboratory and clinical teaching across the continuum of medical learners. She also is designated as Associate Professor of Pathology at the Bond University Medical School, Gold Coast. She has both domestic and international medical training and work experience including India, UK & Saudi Arabia. She trained as a General Pathologist in India in 1994, then specialised as a fellow in Microbiology & Virology in UK/Australia. She was the Clinical Lead Consultant for Infection Prevention and Control at Stockport NHS Foundation Trust hospital, UK and played a key role in developing laboratory and infection control protocols for the UK NHS Influenza Emergency Preparedness in 2010.

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