

INTERACTIVE EDUCATION USING WEB BASED CASES: TEACHING COMPLEX TOPICS TO MEDICAL STUDENTS AND RESIDENTS

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This presentation describes and demonstrates a web based case based curriculum on appropriate use of antibiotics. This application is a result of collaboration among personnel at three institutions: the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU). Experts in pediatric and adult infectious disease, primary care, medical education and information technology developed the program with a focus on case based learning. CDC funded the program and provides content expertise and oversight for the project. The AAMC tested the original program for medical students with a pilot group of six medical schools. Subsequently, AAMC has recommended and implemented revisions, and facilitated the dissemination of the program to all medical schools. OHSU was one of the pilot schools for the medical student program and Elizabeth Steiner and her colleagues are currently developing the resident education program. Technology personnel at AAMC and OHSU as well as a contractor were instrumental in the development of the applications described in the abstract.

The curriculum's content is of interest to medical educators across the continuum: promoting appropriate antimicrobial prescribing practices will help contain antimicrobial resistance - a global threat to health. The computer application combines several technological features in an innovative method making it particularly useful for both educators and administrators. The application allows easy course development, an interface permitting educators' direct updating of the web materials (of particular importance in a rapidly evolving content area) and a data collection mechanism that permits learner prioritization of answers with an associated weighting of scores.

This presentation will describe and demonstrate two levels of this program—for medical students and for residents. The medical student application includes a pre- and post-test to assess immediate impact of learning as well as individual scoring and feedback on each of the program's thirteen cases. The resident education program features include a learner response mechanism that permits prioritization of multiple response options and a scoring system that allows weighing of scores for these responses with feedback for each case.

This presentation will address the following key topics:

- Developing and implementing an effective web based educational program for multiple levels of learners
- Assuring that users can update web materials in a simple and direct fashion including a real time demonstration of this methodology
- Providing an essential educational experience for all primary care physicians