EVALUATION OF A NEW PEDAGOGICAL PROCEDURE INCLUDING A WEBSITE WITH CLINICAL CASES TO DRIVE THE LECTURE COURSE IN PATHOPHYSIOLOGY.

Pieter Canham van Dijken, Bernard Waeber, Unité de pédagogie médicale Faculté de biologie et de médecine – Lausanne – Switzerland

The aim of this study is to evaluate the benefits for the students and for the teachers of a new pedagogical procedure in teaching pathophysiology to undergraduate medical students. This procedure consists of two steps: the first is internet-based and starts 2 weeks before the excathedra course. Each student goes on a website, reads a clinical case and chooses between some laboratory exams those which seem the most appropriate. Then he gets the laboratory results and some questions on the case are asked. The second step consists of the ex-cathedra course. Based on the results of the first step, the teacher discusses the clinical cases with the students. This patient-oriented method of teaching pathophysiology greatly favours the interaction between the students and the teacher. It also motivates students to prepare in advance the course which is expected to improve the faculty of learning and the long lasting retention.