

## **ACUTE PAIN MANAGEMENT E-LEARNING PACKAGE DEVELOPMENT**

**Paul Kirk, Dr Mair Davies, Mrs Lynda Jenkins, Mr Joel Benson**  
**School of Postgraduate Medical Education, Wales College of Medicine, Cardiff**

### **Introduction**

Postgraduate medical training in the U.K. has undergone significant change in recent times. A new medical curriculum has been devised and published and a competence based system of training implemented. The emphasis on teaching is diminishing and the emphasis on self directed, active reflective learning is increasing. In parallel with this the European Working Time Directive has meant a reduction in working hours for doctors. In order to facilitate flexible learning at a pace place and time of the learner's choosing, Postgraduate Training Centres are implementing e-learning portals which draw together quality assured e-learning resources into quality assured medical education programmes mapped to the medical curriculum.

### **Details**

It is against this backdrop that a bid was made to Cardiff University's Innovative Teaching and Learning Fund to acquire funding for the construction of an interactive e-learning package in the area of acute pain management. The authors feel that safe and effective pain management is a basic tool for all clinicians and is still poorly understood; also there is increasing evidence that uncontrolled acute pain can lead to long term chronic pain problems.

The intended audience for the proposed electronic demonstration is any undergraduate or postgraduate clinician or pharmacist. The Acute Pain Package, which is currently under construction, will be made available at the conference. There are limitations as to use, but the package will be available free of charge for non profit use.

The project is innovative, using appropriate pedagogical and multimedia techniques to produce a modular package, providing an electronic model for delivery, formative assessment and feedback. The package will be SCORM compliant and further work is to be undertaken as a follow up to the project in order to directly link with VLEs such as Blackboard, to record details of assessments in grade books, and provide supportive content for electronic portfolio development.

The beneficiaries of the package will include medical faculty, clinicians and pharmacists. Medical schools may map it to their medical curriculum. The package covers history taking, Neuropathic and nociceptor pain management in different clinical settings. It is planned to use the package in the Postgraduate Teaching programmes in Wales U.K. and undertake an evaluative study in order to ascertain whether such a package makes a difference to clinical practice, this study will take place in 2008/9

Paul Kirk, School of Postgraduate Medical Education  
Wales College of Medicine, Heath Park, Cardiff CF14 4XL  
[kirkps@cf.ac.uk](mailto:kirkps@cf.ac.uk) Phone: 00 44 (0)1792 516488