



Game On! Email-Facilitated Case Competition as a Format for High-Value Care Education



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BACKGROUND

- Overdiagnosis and overtreatment contribute to high costs and potential patient harm.
- One strategy to reduce costs is to train physicians to deliver high-value care (HVC).
- No standardized curricula exist to best teach residents how to deliver HVC.

OBJECTIVE

- To develop, implement, and evaluate a longitudinal, email-facilitated HVC curriculum for pediatric residents utilizing a case competition focused on cost-effective diagnostic evaluation.

METHODS

- Conducted email-facilitated case competition for pediatric residents (N=114) for the 2020-2021 academic year
- Each residency class had 3 days to collaborate, request diagnostic testing results, and submit a diagnosis.
- The diagnosis, cost, and optimal HVC evaluation were provided.
- Distributed a survey and conducted 2 focus groups of participating residents (N=5).
- Using basic interpretative qualitative methodology, focus group transcripts were analyzed iteratively until consensus of themes was obtained.

SURVEY RESULTS

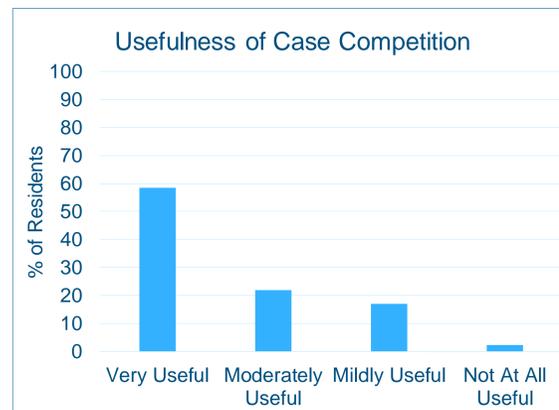


Figure 1. Survey results displaying residents' perspectives regarding how useful the case competition was for their daily clinical practice (n=41)

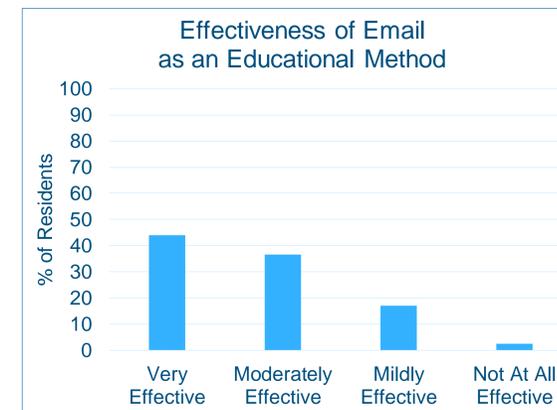


Figure 2. Survey results displaying residents' perspectives of how effective email was as an educational method (n=41)

FOCUS GROUP RESULTS (N=5 residents)

Theme #1: Enhancement of HVC Attitudes, Behavior, and Awareness

"This was a nice exercise in demonstrating that the **day-to-day work that we do even as residents can be exercises in high-value care**, and the decisions we make... does this test actually change what we're going to do for this patient?"

Theme #2: Case competition and gamification element increased engagement

"I love competition... It's fun to make it a game. There's some **camaraderie** there."

Theme #3: Active learning through cases and collaboration

"I think it's been motivating for me to just become a **better doctor and a better clinician**... And be inspired by each other and each other's **commitment to doing right for the patient**."

Theme #4: Email as a mode for delivery of HVC resident education

"...When we're doing [cases] virtually, and just over a more prolonged period, **everyone has the opportunity to provide input** that might not occur in an in-person format with such a large group."

CONCLUSIONS

- A longitudinal email-facilitated case competition may be an effective strategy to improve resident cost awareness.
- Gamification increased resident engagement, and the email format allowed for flexibility for some residents.
- Further work is needed to incorporate other HVC principles, such as patient/family experience into the curriculum.

IMPLICATIONS

- Email-facilitated curricula may allow for flexibility and serve as an additional mode of education, especially in the pandemic.
- Case competition format may be used to teach other clinical concepts and can lead to great collaboration and camaraderie among learners.

LIMITATIONS

- Small sample size
- Single site, one academic year
- Not all residents were able to participate given clinical duties and time limitations

DISCLOSURES

None