

Learning (together) with cases: A story of interprofessional educational collaboration

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Interprofessional education and practice are recognized as emerging trends in both physician training and practice. Interprofessionalism embodies elements of the CanMEDS Communicator and Collaborator competencies and is an important part of postgraduate medical education.

The Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada's Future of Medical Education Project endorses undergraduate exposure to both inter- and intra-professionalism in order to improve quality, safety and efficiencies of health care in Canada. From a practical standpoint, inter-professional education often presents unique logistical challenges of both scale and scheduling.

Learning (Together) with Cases is a web-based portal that combines authentic, virtual cases with computer-mediated communication, allowing learners to work together while simulating collaborative practice. Students function as inter-professional teams as they address complex cases presented online and enhanced with images, audio and video.

This ongoing project has been developed under a Creative Commons license with the goal of sharing the material with educators worldwide. We present our 18-month experience as an inter-professional development team and chronicle the challenges and triumphs of developing and implementing this web-based educational environment.