

The importance of relationships to deliver teaching quickly and on a scale in a pandemic



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Background

SARS CoV-2 has encroached on all aspect our daily lives, and has become the centre of media attention over the past few months. The repercussion of the pandemic has restricted many aspects of education.

The future of modern medicine lies in the ability to teach future doctors. Universities have had to adapt quickly during the pandemic, with some areas of the curriculum being taught via online methods. Medicine proves challenging in that clinical skills teaching form a core component of the course and are pivotal to future doctors' training.

Methods

We approached Dragon's Heart Hospital (Wales' largest COVID field hospital) to allow us to deliver an new Acute Care Prepared course for final year medical students from Cardiff University, as part of a wider spiral undergraduate learning program. This was safely delivered to 300 students with a faculty of 30 trainees.

This faculty was brought together in a very short time scale through a local social media group that had been developed over the last 2 years made up of trainees who were or had previously working in critical care in Cardiff. The teaching included simulation and small group work shops

Results

Feedback of the experience and teaching quality was overwhelmingly positive both from students and faculty. It is set to be part of a spiral learning process that prepares medical students for the clinical challenges they are likely to encounter as Foundation Year doctors

Conclusion

Despite the restrictions encountered, the success of this course proves that desired goals and competencies can be achieved by adapting to our ever changing environment.

