The Tyranny of Distance-Helping Your Rural Registrar Prepare for the Exam

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Disclaimer

• I am IT illiterate ….
Where are We??
Exam Preparation

- Hold 2 formal weekend workshops for registrars-written and clinical
- Impractical to hold tutorial nights for candidates in a particular geographical region
- GP shortage in the region
Evolution

• “How are you going” teleconference
• Registrars want to practice exam questions
• Teleconference/Read
• Teleconference/Email Concurrently
• Clumsy
Breeze/Acrobat Connect

- Hosted by ANU Medical School Server
- Participation in virtual tutorials/lectures
- Internet with a normal web browser (“Flash” plugin)-You Tube
- Also allows participation from the audience all via the internet if don’t want to use the phone
Registrar Steps

• Obtain preferred tel number
• Negotiate mutually convenient time
• Organise log ins for each registrar
• Email this log to registrars on SEVERAL occasions
• Advise they must be logged in prior to commencement of teleconference
Educator Steps

• Prepare power points
• Written-combination of AKT and KFP
• Slide of question
• Slide of answer

• Clinical
• Intro that appears on the door in the exam
On the Day

- Reminder email – time and log ins
- Presentation is uploaded onto Breeze
- Log in as the host
- You can tell when registrars are logged in
- Start the teleconference and power point
- Sequentially thru the registrars
Pre Exam Teleconference

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Written

- AKT one registrar answers
- KFP one registrar answers one part only
- Discussion of answers as a group
- Pictures etc are easily displayed
If, on examination, the ulcer looked like this, what would your next step be?

- use alginate dressing
- check fasting BSL
- advice 4 layer compression
- check zinc levels
- biopsy
- take a swab for culture and sensitivities
- refer to specialist
- prescribe antibiotics
- check ankle brachial index
- check HLA B27
- check RF
Clinical

- Post info that would be on door in exam
- They have 2 minutes reading time
- I role play (have script)
- Results given verbally
- Myself and registrars provide feedback
Bob Kat

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

STANDARD INSTRUCTIONS:
- This is an 8 minute station.
- Read the following scenario.
- If investigations are requested, this consultation may be conducted as if it were more than one session.

ADDITIONAL / OPTIONAL INSTRUCTIONS
- Take an appropriate history from the patient.
- When you are ready, request the details of an appropriate physical examination from the observing examiner.
- Request the results of any investigations from the observing examiner.
- Outline your conclusions and proposed management plan to the patient.
Disadvantages

• Lack of time for practice if want to do all via internet
• Language and age barriers to technology
• Internet connection quality
• Hardware quality
Advantages

• Potential to be very cheap
• Time efficient
• Flexible and so popular
• Useful for isolated registrars
• Potential to use for other teaching opportunities
• Simple as even I can use it