



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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# INTRODUCING “SONNIE: YOUR ULTRASOUND PARTNER”

## AN INTERACTIVE WEBCOMIC APPROACH TO RURAL POINT-OF-CARE ULTRASOUND EDUCATION

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**The problem:** Qualitative data collected for our [2018-19 HOUSE EM Program Evaluation report](#) shows that rural BC-based UBC CPD Hands-On Ultrasound Education (HOUSE) course participants need more ongoing support to develop their skills post-course, preferably in the form of flexible educational opportunities that reduce travel and cost-related barriers.

**What we are doing:** The UBC CPD Rural and Creative Learning teams collaborated to create an online virtual case study tool. The tool is presented to the learner in a “webcomic” format, leveraging visual storytelling to engage learners and simulate real-world scenarios in a fun and memorable way. The tool features original artwork produced by UBC CPD interactive designers, and clinical content developed by HOUSE course instructors. Our innovative tool incorporates evidence-based strategies from instructional and immersive design to create a learning experience that is both engaging and effective.

**The implications of this work:** Completed case studies will be integrated into our e-learning platform (Moodle) to enhance the learning of course participants. The cases will be certified via the College of Family Physicians of Canada for Continuing Medical Education credits, and be made available publicly as a resource for health care providers through the UBC CPD website. An environmental scan conducted by our project team concluded that a similar online, interactive case study tool designed specifically for Canadian practitioners does not yet exist; therefore, our platform will help fill a gap in the national Point-of-Care Ultrasound (POCUS) landscape for interactive case study material.

**Keywords:** rural, ultrasound, interactive