



FAST EVIDENCE: BUILDING A TOOLKIT TO OPTIMIZE PATIENT CARE

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Background

Within a complex healthcare environment and a rapidly evolving digital world, physicians need to be adept at identifying credible, evidence-based information online. To help meet that need, the College of Physician and Surgeons of BC (CPSBC) in collaboration with UBC Division of Continuing Professional Development (UBC CPD) developed the Finding Medical Evidence course in 2007. The course introduced Point of Care (PoC) online tools to optimize patient care. Recently, the curriculum, format, and branding was redeveloped to integrate best practices in CPD and adult learning principles.

Summary of Innovation

FAST Evidence is an interactive, small group workshop facilitated by the CPSBC librarians. Using real-life case examples, participants gain hands-on experience in developing effective internet searches to find credible and evidence-based medical information. At the end of the workshop, learners complete a Commitment to Change form to plan for practice improvement. To further support ongoing learning, participants engage in incremental post-program activities including a peer check-in and librarian coaching session. The post-workshop coaching session gives learners the opportunity to receive objective feedback and support from program facilitators. Evaluation data is collected directly onsite and at 12 weeks post-workshop.

Conclusion

The onsite evaluation data indicates a 43% increase in participants' reported comfort level using PoC tools. Further, quantitative and qualitative data from the 12-week reflective activity demonstrates an increased level in confidence and satisfaction using the tools in practice. Overall, data collected suggests that this innovative program is effective in teaching physicians how to effectively navigate and find credible, evidence-based information at the PoC.

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