
From the Editors-in-Chief

This past academic year has been extraordinarily fruitful for fmCASES, with pilot testing, student and peer review, final revision and editing, creation of four new cases to fill curricular gaps, and creation of a final exam.

We are completing the pilot year for fmCASES, with faculty and students from over 141 medical schools accessing the cases so far. As of April 2010, more than 13,425 case sessions were completed. Approximately 14 schools had greater than 50 students using the cases, even during this year of pilot testing, editing, and improvement.

Student and peer review has been extensive and very helpful. We are in the final phase of peer review, with two to three peer reviews per case. Approximately 200 students provided reviews of each case. The authors, with advice from the editorial staff, are finalizing improvements.

Alec Chessman and Shou Ling Leong
fmCASES Editors-in-Chief

Four New Cases

Content analysis revealed four areas requiring better coverage. The cases' curriculum content was matched against sets of national objectives, including those from the Family Medicine Curriculum Resources, the National Board of Medical Examiners task force, and the Family Medicine Clerkship Curriculum (formerly known as C4). Four cases, covering dizziness, congestive heart failure, dysmenorrhea, and labor and delivery, will be created and available by fall 2010.

Final Exam

By the start of this academic year July 2010, we will also have a multiple-choice question exam. A team of scholars are hard at work to create this exam. By July 2010, a clerkship director whose school subscribes to fmCASES can ask for an exam based upon the cases required in his/her curriculum. This exam will be provided and graded for no cost added to the subscription. And, in the future, national performance data will help in exam improvement, and in comparing student accomplishment to a national reference.

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The success of fmCASES is built on the collaborative commitments of the Institute for Innovative Technology In Medical Education and the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine.



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