

## O2

# "KIDSGAS TUTORIAL: THE NEW METHOD OF SMARTPHONE TEACHING"

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### Introduction and aims

Teaching is an important aspect of training, particularly in short subspecialty blocks such as paediatrics. The use of smartphones is increasing and evidence to support their use as a teaching tool is growing(1). Dedicated teaching sessions inevitably reduce time in theatre and makes achieving case numbers difficult. In order to combat this, we created a tutorial-based teaching format via social media platform, WhatsApp. Our aim was to provide trainees with valuable teaching resources, without impacting on case numbers.

### Methods

All trainees completing their higher paediatric block were invited to a "Kidsgas tutorial" WhatsApp group at the start of the rotation. A group of consultants and advanced trainees created a number of paediatric related tutorials aimed at enhancing learning during the rotation.

The tutorials were posted once per fortnight and discussion was encouraged via the WhatsApp group. A survey was sent out to assess the initial introduction of the scheme and 6 months later to assess its progress.

### Results

The initial paper survey was completed by 11 trainees, focussing mainly on the use of WhatsApp as the format for teaching, and whether this was too invasive.

The initial feedback showed 91% trainees were happy with the format and found the tutorials very useful. Negative feedback was related to trainees feeling nervous about discussion within a WhatsApp group environment.

Taking this feedback into account, a second round of trainees were given a more in-depth introduction to the group addressing previous concerns.

After 5 months, a second survey was completed anonymously via Survey Monkey with 71% of trainees responding. Once again feedback regarding tutorials was positive, with 93% happy to use WhatsApp as format for teaching and 100% reading the tutorials (53% all, 47% some).

Regarding tutorial discussions, 53% of trainees liked the WhatsApp format, with only 13% finding it too invasive.

There was a 50:50 split within the group over weekly vs fortnightly delivery of tutorials.

## Discussion and Conclusion

Overall, the feedback from the tutorials has been incredibly positive, with the vast majority of the trainees being happy to receive tutorials via WhatsApp group. We appreciate that this format is not suited to every trainee and may be considered slightly too invasive for some. Giving trainees the option at the start of the rotation to leave the group addresses this and we are now offering the tutorials to be sent via email as an alternative option.

Looking forwards our aim is to create an App that trainees can access during their rotation, with all tutorials available and an anonymous forum for discussion. In conclusion, this teaching format has provided valuable additional teaching without negatively impacting on case numbers.

## **Reference**

Oqab Jabali, Munther Saeedi, Ghada Shbeitah & Abed Alkarim Ayyoub. Medical faculty members' perception of smartphones as an educational tool. BMC Medical Education. July 2019. volume 19, Article number: 264.