

Consultation! A teaching and learning tool for multi-level medical learners

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Background

Health professionals primarily develop and refine their consultation skills through clinical encounters with patients. However, these skills can also be learned through deliberate practice and role play. By incorporating game elements into the educational experience, learning can be more interactive, immersive, and engaging.

Consultation! is a board game designed to help medical learners develop a broad range of consultation skills through role playing common clinical presentations. The game also incorporates clinical knowledge questions and encourages peer feedback to reinforce learning.

This paper reports on the teaching and learning outcomes of Consultation! for multi-level medical learners – students, prevocational doctors and GP trainees.

Method

In 2024, General Practice Supervision Australia (GPSA) launched the Consultation! board game in Australia and internationally. A series of workshops were held throughout 2024 at national and international medical conferences, providing an opportunity for medical teachers to learn about and engage with the game.

With some hundreds of copies of Consultation! now in circulation worldwide, GPSA will invite teachers and medical learners to provide feedback on its use, perceived acceptability, credibility, utility, and learning outcomes.

Results

A mixed-methods study will be undertaken to evaluate the use of Consultation! as a teaching and learning tool. Educators and learners will be invited to complete an online anonymous survey to evaluate the use, perceived acceptability, credibility, utility, and learning outcomes of Consultation!

Discussion

Consultation! offers an innovative approach to engaging multi-level medical learners in developing their consultation skills. There are significant opportunities for adaptation of the game to the education of other health professionals and this is the focus for future evaluation. By enhancing consultation skills and clinical knowledge in health professionals in a novel way, Consultation! may contribute towards improving the quality of health care in Australia.

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