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The Use of Weekly Podcasts as a Medium to Supplement Academic Internal Medicine Residency Didactics

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INTRODUCTION

• The majority of resident physicians in the United States are from the Millennial Generation (born 1981 to 1996), currently aged 23 to 38 (1). It is estimated that 93% of Millennials have a smartphone (2). Podcasts represent almost 10% of audio listening among millennials (3), with the second-most-preferred type of podcast among millennials being educational (28%) (4).
• With this in mind, and in recognition of the demanding schedule of residents and interns on inpatient wards, the UNM Internal Medicine chief residents developed a podcast to supplement and reinforce the concepts taught in afternoon rounds.

METHODS AND DESIGN

• The podcast is available for free on Apple Podcasts as well as the UNM IM Chiefs website (imchiefs.unm.edu).
• Typical duration is approximately 15 minutes, allowing for completion of an entire episode within a typical car commute.
• Clinical pearls are presented based on a case seen at UNM Hospital through a conversational method amongst the chief residents.
• We surveyed interns and residents on their opinion and understanding of afternoon report didactics before and after the implementation of the podcast using a 0 to 10 scale.
• Survey responses were collected on five targeted areas: 1) accessibility, 2) satisfaction, 3) relevance to ABIM studying, 4) likelihood of the podcasts to lead to a change in clinical practice, and 5) knowledge retention of the information presented in the podcasts.

RESULTS

• With respect to the survey responses collected, data thus far gathered does not show a positive/well-received response to the implementation of the podcasts. The only statistically significant before/after change was a decrease in overall AR satisfaction (p<0.05).
• Comments in general reflected the negative perception residents have with having to attend didactics as an ACGME requirement while they are on a busy inpatient wards service.

CONCLUSIONS

• Residents felt that accessibility, satisfaction, effect on clinical practice, and knowledge retention, all worsened after the podcast began as a supplement to afternoon report didactics.
• Of note, resident average response pertaining to ABIM relevance of the didactics did increase as a supplement to afternoon report didactics.
• The increased negativity reflecting afternoon report on the post-intervention survey may be confounded due to a busier inpatient load at the time of the second survey, or from resident burnout as the year progressed.

REFERENCES

Reference #1: http://www.pewresearch.org/topics/millennials/
Reference #2: http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2018/05/02/millennials-stand-out-for-their-technology-use-but-older-generations-also-embrace-digital-life/