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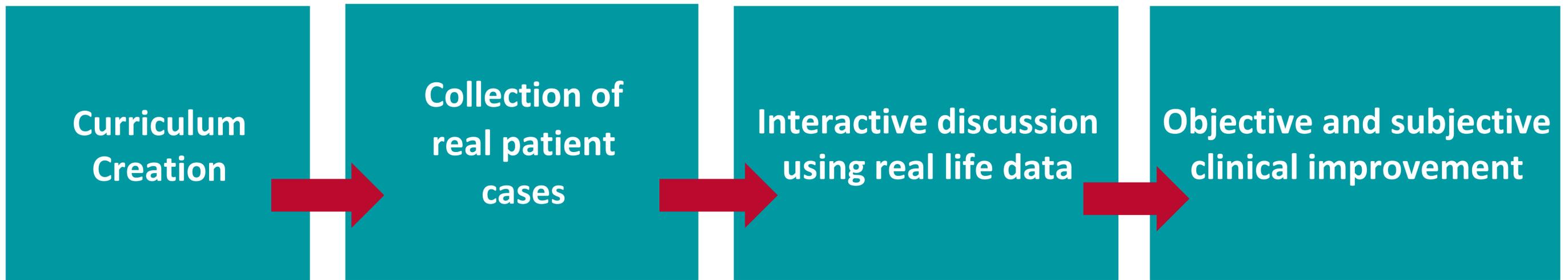
Virtual breast cancer clinic: An innovative interactive educational curriculum



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Background

Many oncology fellows are unable to spend an adequate time in a breast cancer clinic to fully grasp the practice. The limited cases seen by fellows rarely span the full breadth of typical clinical scenarios and treatment plans are lengthy, nuanced, and complex.



Curriculum based on:

- American Society of Clinical Oncology Self-Evaluation Program
- Historic in-training exam frequently missed questions
- NCCN guidelines
- Real-life experience

Patients are followed virtually from their initial visit throughout their treatment course, including complications and unexpected developments:

- History and physical
- Radiology, images and reports
- Pathology
- Laboratory

Discussion focused on:

- Interpretation of primary data
- Guide-line based management
- Practice counseling patients on evidence based anticipated benefit from treatment, possible side effects
- Complication management
- Relevant clinical trials and historical perspective

ASCO-SEP questions pre and post test used for the initial cycle. Next cycle to evaluate:

- Repeat pre and post test
- Self-perceived comfort level scores
- ITE scores on the breast section

Impact

Breast cancer is a highly prevalent disease that will constitute a large portion of practice for future oncologists. It is also highly represented on the ABIM board exam. Unfortunately, clinical and academic demands often limit the necessary time to become familiar with this complex practice. Virtual experiences that simulate real-world scenarios can help establish a strong understanding and comfort level with caring for breast cancer patients with minimal time demand.

