

Abstract Form

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Project Title:	The Clinicopathologic Conference is an Effective Medical Education Tool to Teach Clinical Reasoning

Research Category (please check one):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Original Research	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clinical Vignette	<input type="checkbox"/>	Quality Improvement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Medical Education Innovation
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Abstract

Introduction: The Clinicopathologic Conference (CPC) is a case-based teaching exercise in deductive and clinical reasoning. With an emphasis on clinical problem-solving through a multidisciplinary approach, the CPC was previously a widely utilized education tool. Especially in the COVID-19 era, multiple conferences including the CPC have decreased in frequency or stopped. The purpose of this medical education innovation was to reestablish the CPC at UCLA and gauge its effectiveness in teaching clinical reasoning among physician-trainees.

Methods: A quarterly CPC was coordinated among the Departments of Medicine, Pathology, and Radiology. A survey for physician-trainees was presented at the end of each CPC. The primary endpoint of clinical usefulness as an education tool was assessed using a 5-point Likert scale. Additional secondary endpoints including the assessment of the perceived educational value of the CPC in comparison to other teaching conferences were evaluated.

Results: 50 respondent physician-trainees completed the survey. All respondents (50/50) answered in the affirmative that the CPC is a useful education tool to teach clinical reasoning, with 4% (2/50) agreeing and 94% (48/50) strongly agreeing. Similarly, all respondents (50/50) expressed interest in and a desire for an ongoing CPC series. In a secondary subset analysis, compared with other teaching conferences including Morning Report, Resident Report, Morbidity & Mortality Review, and Grand Rounds, the CPC was ranked of equal (19%) or more favorable (81%) educational value.

Conclusions: The CPC is a multidisciplinary, case-based, clinical conference series that has been reestablished at UCLA. Physician-trainees consider the CPC a highly effective medical education tool to hone clinical problem-solving and it is considered of equal or greater educational value compared with other teaching conferences.