

# Review of: "The use of tele-education in medicine, during and beyond the COVID-19 pandemic: A commentary"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

## 1. Introduction

- While tumour boards can be educational for residents and everyone participating, that is not their main purpose and it should be stated.
- Last subpharagrad "Tele-education: previously used as a means of long-distance education was proposed as an alternative to in-person education" . ":" seems to be misplaced, a comma would be more suitable.

## 2. Methods

- Please correct the words "xxx" as not all words are in "".
- Is there a MeSH definition for each term that could be used instead of these key words?
- Consider addressing the following topics in methods:
  - Which are the time limits for the research?
  - Which types of papers were included?
  - Are there other restrictions or any exclusion criteria (i.e. language, reviews, commentary..)?
  - What is the method once the papers retrieved? (i.e. how many reviewers, information needed...)?

## 3. Results

- Mention that each referenced study is an example of existing literature (as we cannot exclude publication bias in busy times like COVID pandemic, i don't think those studies referenced in this paper are standalone experiences, but only the ones that were published).
- I would recommend at least 2 examples for paragraph and a deeper focus on outcomes / results with their definition, if available.

### 3.1. Tele-rotation clerkships and virtual reality cases for medical students

- When describing Insubria experience, cite what were considered as positive results (i.e. exam notes? success rate in exam?)

### 3.2. Journal Club for resident trainees via Microsoft teams

- When describing Columbia experience, it would be more correct to underline that is the first documented/published

virtual Journal club experience (we can not exclude publication bias).

### 3.3. Tumor Board reviews through videoconferencing

- "The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center passaged to virtual multidisciplinary tumor boards during the COVID-19 pandemic for the first time [16]." = not clear if the phrase means that the university is a pioneer in this domain or if they were mentioning the year (ie. for the first time in 2020)

### 3.5. Continuing Medical Education (CME) via video conferencing

- "An online survey was conducted in November 2020, by 326 physicians and specialists from multiple countries." The survey was conducted BY 326 physicians or ON 326 physicians?

### 3.8. Virtual interviews for trainees via zoom or skype

- Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGM) : from which area of the world, for those that are not familiar with the institution?
- "With 100% of the faculty supporting the online interviews hence highly recommend the virtual platform for future interviews at [25]." Unclear, consider rephrasing

## 4. Discussion

- Table 1. If a table is present, it should be presented somewhere in the results. Tables do not belong to discussion
- "Virtual interviews emerged as a means of recruiting quality trainees at various levels of medical training (27)." bibliography not properly formatted
- Networking and conferences could have been addressed in the discussion.