

WHAT TO DO THIS WEEK

If you have any responsibility for teaching medical students dermatology, here is what to do to start to be ahead:

1. Plan an integrated approach to your dermatology undergraduate course, with identified learning objectives. Create a range of approaches focussed on meeting these objectives; written material, website and app recommendations and a series of short targeted new videos, all available on a tutor-moderated interactive dermatology department website for your students. Of course also continue to plan the live clinical exposure timetable, ideally integrated with your learning objectives.
2. Identify the various dermatology websites that have specific teaching material aimed at medical students.
3. Explore the various dermatology iPhone and Android apps and identify free ones that you think will be particularly stimulating for your students.
4. For your new online videos, get local advice from colleagues over the best software package to use, and use lecturers who are willing to learn and use the new techniques. Remember, don't just video current live lectures!
5. Consider the best use of your limited lecturer resources. Divert live lecturing time into more small group tutorials, into moderating online discussions, or into developing your dermatology undergraduate website resources.
6. Explore the possibility of running online medical student group project work to promote joint learning approach among your students, moderated by a tutor.
7. Aim to produce such high quality material that you will want to make it freely available on the web: a great way to promote yourself and your department.
8. Get your key teaching staff to get formally educated about education.
9. Or just do one of the above: at least get started!