

Sharing Paediatric “GEMS” – Great Education across Medical Schools

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Background

In March 2020, in the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic, UK medical schools took the decision to remove medical students from clinical placements with an immediate switch to online teaching and learning. The time scale was short – change had to be enacted within weeks. Time for a very urgent, very large scale rethink about the delivery of undergraduate (UG) medical education.

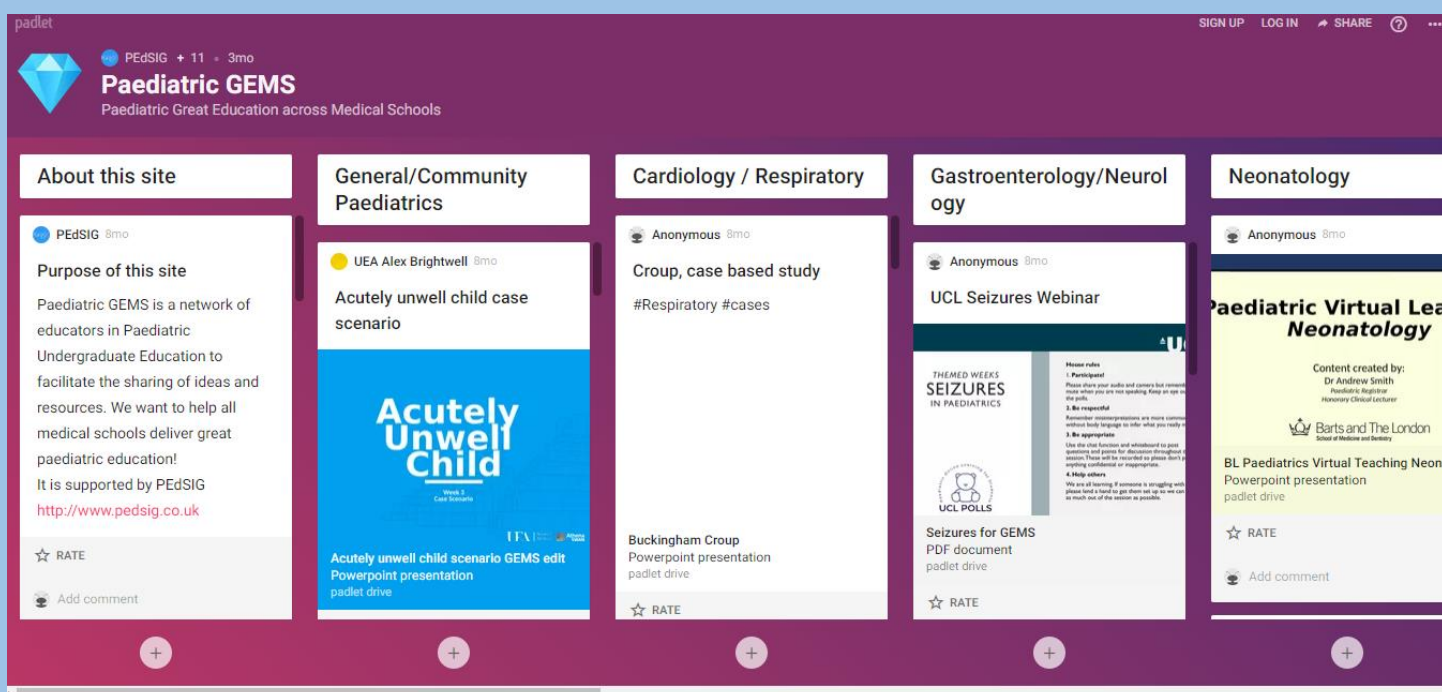


Fig. 1 The Padlet resource sharing site

Methods and results

We got together as a group of UG leads from different medical schools to form Paediatric GEMS, a collaboration to share ideas, experiences and resources across medical schools. We met fortnightly, discussing challenges and solutions: how to deliver a clinical course without access to patients. We shared ideas and resources, and developed an online site for sharing clinical teaching content. This collaboration has continued now we are offering a more blended learning approach for our students, with the development of new joint resources; we are now a collaborative team, feeding into national initiatives such as the Paediatric content of the GMC’s Medical Licensing Assessment, and developing virtual electives

Discussion

The coronavirus pandemic has had a huge impact on undergraduate medical education globally but this has also provided us with new opportunities for collaboration and sharing. Long may it continue.

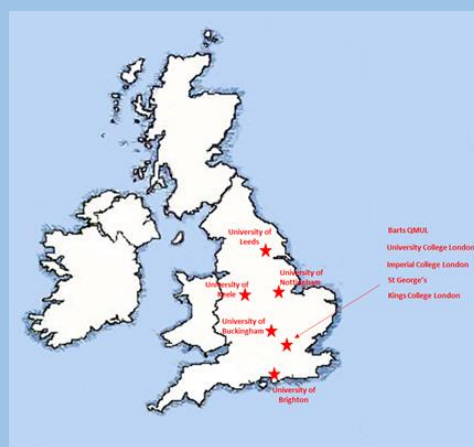


Fig. 2 Sites currently involved in GEMS

With thanks to the GEMS network.
To be added please email chloe.macaulay@gstt.nhs.uk

