



Come On In: Welcome to the Virtual Paediatric Clinic!

PEdSIG Winter Meeting 2021

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Background

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, medical students were unable to attend clinical placements. We developed a virtual paediatric clinic to support students to develop knowledge and experience of this area. Students that have returned to placements are also missing outpatient experience as many clinics are now by telephone.

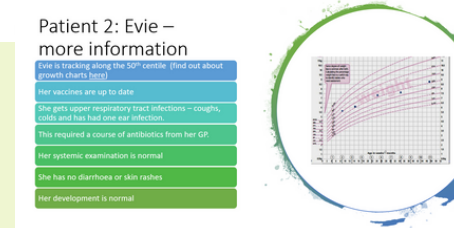
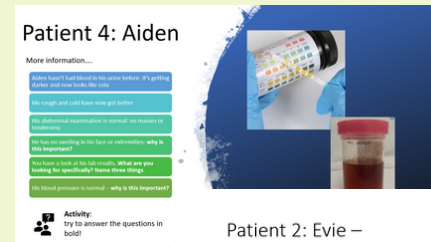
Aims

- To create a virtual paediatric clinic supplementing online undergraduate learning
- Encourage interactive learning and signpost relevant resources

Methods



- 9 cases chosen to reflect the range and variety of a typical general paediatric clinic such as constipation and recurrent infections
- Emphasis on red flags in history or examination in 'key learning points'
- Links to guidelines, diagnostic tools and further reading included
- Interaction was encouraged by activity boxes
- Undergraduate competencies were included, such as using the growth charts in the red book or checking a vaccination history.



Student feedback:

"The virtual neonatal unit and the virtual paed clinic were very helpful."

"...by far the best placement I have attended"

"The online learning material has been fantastic"

"I think these resources are really valuable"

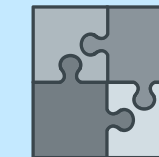
Results



student survey respondents reported **100% satisfaction** with their placement

The virtual clinic has been **shared** with other undergraduate leads via the **Paediatric Great Education Across Medical Schools (GEMS) Network**

Conclusion



- The virtual clinic provided a well-received alternative to clinic attendance during COVID restrictions.
- Making the clinic interactive improves engagement: there is scope to increase this in future versions
- Similar resources could usefully complement face-to-face learning in the future.

