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Oral presentations during Emergency Medicine Training

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Background

With the rapid advancement of AI/large language models, the prior written assignment in half-year assessment for trainees, namely BET for basic trainees and topic review for higher trainees, might no longer serve the intended purposes. There is also a demand to shift the training direction of trainees to areas that can develop professional competencies.

Presentation skill is a valued competency as medical professionals worldwide (1, 2). By doing presentation on homework, the trainees can get a deep understanding on the contents on one hand and develop their presentation skills as a professional competency on the other hand. Starting by 1 Jan 2025, trainees are expected to conduct a number of professional presentations during emergency medicine training.

(1) Basic Training

For basic trainees, the prior requirement of half year Best Evidence Topic (BET) written assignment every 6 months will be replaced by **presentation of ONE BET** in an in-house department meeting.

Requirement on Basic training:

- 1.1 To complete **basic training**, a basic trainee needs to present at least **ONE** presentation up to satisfactory standard. There should be at least one presentation every 2 years during basic training.
- 1.2 If a presentation is not up to the standard, the training supervisor can ask the trainee to do another presentation.
- 1.3 A basic trainee can do as many presentations as feasible depend on the opportunities in the department.
- 1.4 The Training supervisor can assign topic to trainees or let the trainees to choose topic.
- 1.5 The training supervisor or delegate should have the final judgment on the standard of the presentation.
- 1.6 The presentation should within A&E rotation (not in other specialty rotation) in a formal training event e.g. departmental training day. The conduction of presentation should be in English. The performance of presentation would be evaluated by the training supervisor or delegate.
- 1.7 BST rotation: for BST from other rotation to A&E (usually 6 months): the requirement is present ONE BET. For BST rotation of 3 months, there is no requirement on homework.
- 1.8 Use of AI is allowed in the preparation work but has to be declared.

Please see appendix 1 for the marking rubric on BET presentation.

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(2) Higher training

For higher trainees, the prior topic review written assignment by higher trainee every 6 months and replaced by **presentations of topic review** in an in-house department meeting.

- 2.1 To complete **Higher training**, a higher trainee needs to present at least **THREE** topics up to satisfactory standard. One out of the three presentation should be carried out during the mandatory higher trainee rotation. There should be at least one presentation every 2 years during both higher training.
- 2.2 If a presentation is not up to the standard, the training supervisor can ask the trainee to do another presentation.
- 2.3 A higher trainee can do as many presentations as feasible depend on the opportunities in the department.
- 2.4 The Training supervisor can assign topic to trainees or allow trainees to choose topic.
- 2.5 The training supervisor should have the final judgment on the standard of the presentation.
- 2.6 The presentation should be carried out in A&E rotations, include higher training rotation to another department (but not in other specialty rotations). The presentation should be in a formal training event e.g. departmental training day. The conduction of presentation should be in English. The performance of presentation would be evaluated by the training supervisor or delegate.
- 2.7 In order to ensure deep understanding on the presented topic, the presentation must include a Q&A session.
- 2.8 Use of AI is allowed in the preparation work but has to be declared.
- 2.9 The performance on presentation in higher training may contribute to the final exit assessment.

Please see appendix 2 for the marking rubric on topic review presentation.

(3) Learning outcomes for trainees:

By doing BET presentation, a trainee should be able to

- Formulate a research question from clinical encountered controversies.
- Use database to perform literature search on specific topic.
- Critically appraise the evidence from the literature search
- Discuss the limitation of the research findings
- Draw reasonable conclusions and discuss on future direction of further research
- Prepare the presentation materials in a well-planned and user-friendly manner
- Present the material in front of others with reasonable skills appropriate for the level of trainee.

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- Respond to questions and discussions raised by the audience.
- Discuss with training supervisor on improvement of literature search and presentation skill.

By doing topic review presentation, a trainee should be able to

- Select an important topic in emergency medicine for review and presentation.
- Review the topic with most updated references and list out the references.
- Choose most relevant and important contents to build in presentation
- Make presentation material in a well-planned and user-friendly manner
- Present the material in front of others with reasonable skills appropriate for the level of trainee.
- Besides contents of presentation, attentive to tone and gesture of presentation.
- Include interactive activities in the presentation instead of one-way didactic.
- Able to respond to questions and discussions raised by the audience.
- Reflect on own presentation skills
- Discuss with training supervisor on improvement in presentation or public speaking skills.

Transition timeline

- Tentative date of cut-off: 1 Jan 2025
- Before the cut-off date: All requirements on written assignment stay the same
- After the cutoff day: no more written assignments in half-year assessment as mandatory.
- All trainee need to conduct oral presentation at least every two years starting by 1 Jan 2025
- For basic trainees, if the enrolment to higher trainee is after 1 Jan 2026 (i.e. more than 1 year after the cut-off date), the trainee would need to present at least 1 BET within the basic training.
- For higher trainees, if the exit assessment for a higher trainee is after 1 Jan 2026 (i.e. more than 1 year after the cut-off date), the higher trainee would need to present at least 1 topic review presentation before they attempt the exit assessment.
- Higher trainees are recommended to do one topic presentation per year until
 - o A mandatory number of 3 presentations of satisfactory standard, or
 - Obtained fellowship

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Appendix 1: Suggested standard for BET presentation (basic trainee)

Items	Meeting the criteria
Selected a topic in common or important clinical area in the practice of Emergency	Yes/No
Medicine	
The topic is having ambiguous or controversial views on patient management that	Yes/No
warrant further literature search	
The presentation constructed the searching question clearly	Yes/No
The presenter was able to use appropriate searching strategies and searching engines	Yes/No
The presenter was able to perform simple critical appraisal on the findings	Yes/No
The presentation included self-reflection on the limitations	Yes/No
The presenter offered reasonable conclusions or recommendations	Yes/No
The presenter invited questions and discussion	Yes/No
After the topic presentation, the presenter discussed and self-reflected on own	Yes/No
presentation skills	
Duration of presentation is appropriate: 10-20 minutes including open discussion or a	Yes/No
QA session	
Overall	Pass/Remedial

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Appendix 2: Suggested standard for Topic review (higher trainee)

Items	Meeting the Criteria
The topic	
The Trainee has chosen a relatively important topic in emergency medicine	Yes/No
Did a literature review from multiple sources on the topic (Should not only copy and paste	Yes/No
from single review article)	
Listed out the references on the topic review	Yes/No
Included the most updated evident in the presentation	Yes/No
Showed deep undertraining on the topic from the contents of presentation	Yes/No
Presentation skills	
Made own original presentation materials	Yes/No
The presentation contents are well organized	Yes/No
Use appropriate presentation medium/software	
The layout of presentation materials was audience friendly and time friendly (clear slide	Yes/No
layout, number of slides match time of presentation)	
The presenter used appropriate tone and gesture in presentation	Yes/No
The presenter added interactive element to the presentation and engaged the audience	Yes/No
effectively	
Presenter can manage questions from the audience	Yes/No
Overall	1
Trainee can reflect on own presentation skill and formulate improvement plan	Yes/No
Duration of presentation: about 30 minutes or more Including a discussion or QA session	Yes/No
Overall assessment:	

Excellent / Good / Satisfactory / Borderline (remedial) / Unsatisfactory (remedial)

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