



Parallel Trainings Intensify Chinese Pre-Clerk's History-Taking and Physical-Examination Skills and Clerkship Preparedness: A Prospective Comparative Study in Primary Health-Care Center and Campus



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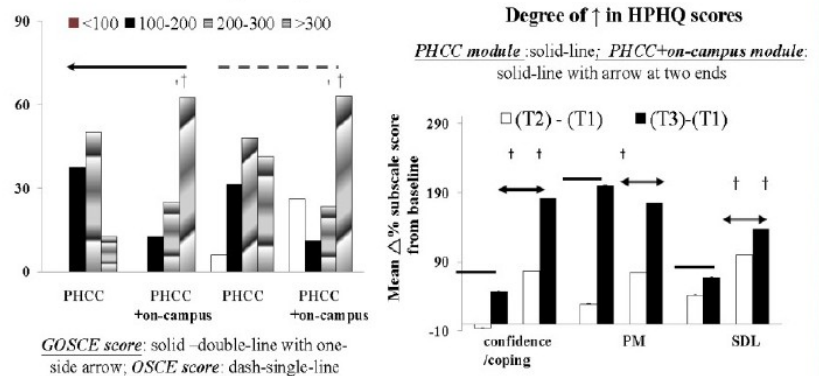
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Background/Aims: Usually, medical-students are frustrated by lack of proper on-campus history-taking (HT), physical-examination (PE) and self-directed-learning (SDL) skills training to prepare their primary health-care center (PHCC) and in-hospital patient contact. For pre-clerks, this study aims to compare the Effectiveness of the PHCC and PHCC+on-campus HT&PE training modules on their clerkship preparedness.

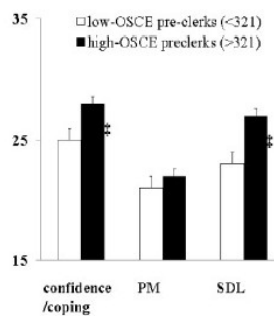


Methods: Prospective, consecutive end-of-pre-clerkship-group-objective-structured-clinical-examination (GOSCE), beginning-of-clerkship-OSCE and self-administered Preparation for Hospital Practice Questionnaire (PHPQ)-assessed comparative study. 128 Voluntary pre-clinical clerk's (64 in each-year) receiving PHCC (7-week PHCC+7-week assignment-based group-learning, academic year-2014, serves as control) and PHCC + on-campus [academic-year-2015, 7-week PHCC+7-week on-campus sessions] module's training were sequential assessed.

Results: Regarding the overall HT&PE skills, both PHCC and PHCC+on-campus modules-trained pre-clerks performed better on OSCE than their GOSCE. Additionally, the above-mentioned improvement was accompanied by having higher self-reported PHPQ scores in "confidence/coping" and "SDL" domains. At the end-of-pre-clerkship and beginning-of-clerkship stages, the degree of improvements in preparedness in "confidence/coping" and "SDL" domains are higher in PHCC + on-campus group than those in PHCC groups.



* $P < 0.05$ vs. pre-module score; † $P < 0.05$, <math>P < 0.01</math> vs. post-module score; ‡ $P < 0.05$ vs. PHCC module's pre-clerks data; †† $P < 0.05$ vs. low-OSCE pre-clerks; T1: pre-module; T2: post-module; T3: beginning of clerkship (follow-up)



Conclusion: Our study suggested that, PHCC + on-campus module, by paired-faculties-led and pre-trained-dyad-student-assisted, is effective in training pre-clinical clerk's HT / PE skills and intensify their SDL / patient-management abilities to prepare hospital practice in clerkship.