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Online Echocardiography Modules for Pediatric Cardiology Fellows

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INTRODUCTION

- Adequate echo education is integral to cardiology training
- Online education is proven to be effective in other specialties, but pediatric echo training data are lacking
- Our aim was to design and assess the role of a novel online module-based curriculum to enhance fellows' echo education

METHOD

- 4 interactive modules, focused on principles and interpretation of a normal echo, were delivered to fellows.
- Content included high quality 2D and 3D echo clips (Fig 1) as well as interactive quizzes (Fig 2) and could be accessed from a phone, tablet, or computer.
- All fellows completed pre- and post-tests, validated by independent expert imagers, and surveys.



Online Echocardiography Modules for Pediatric Cardiology Fellows

Online microteaching modules can be a valuable addition to echocardiography training in cardiology fellowships.



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RESULTS

- 7 fellows participated in the pilot study.
- Test scores improved after completing modules, and most maintained a higher score at 4-weeks, suggesting good knowledge retention (Fig3).
- Self-assessed confidence in echo knowledge and interpretation, as assessed on a numeric scale, improved (Fig4).

DISCUSSION

- Online microteaching modules can provide a valuable adjunct to traditional echo education in cardiology fellowships.
- Our digital, phone-accessible curriculum was well received by fellows and was associated with an objective and subjective improvement in understanding and interpretation of a normal echo.
- Further expansion of such modules will be beneficial in the evolving era of virtual education in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic.