

The application of the spot the difference teaching method in clinical skills training for residents

Submission date 30/03/2022	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Registration date 02/04/2022	Overall study status Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
Last Edited 03/05/2024	Condition category Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

Clinical skill training (CST) is indispensable for first-year surgical residents. It can usually be carried out through video-based flipped learning (FL) within a web-based learning environment. However, it was found that residents lack the process of reflection, blindly imitate results and lose interest and passion for learning in the traditional teaching pattern. The teaching method of "spot the difference" (SDTM), which is based on the fundamentals of the popular game of "spot the difference," is designed to improve students' participation and reflective learning during skill training. This study aims to evaluate this novel educational model's short-term and long-term effectiveness for surgical residents in China.

Who can participate?

First-year residents who require a 3-month rotation in the head and neck surgery department

What does the study involve?

Participants are randomly allocated into SDTM or traditional FL (control) groups. Their clinical skill performance is assessed with validated clinical skill scoring criteria.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

The experimental group may achieve better learning outcomes than the control group. The possible risk is the experimental group may fail to improve performance.

Where is the study run from?

West China Hospital, Sichuan University (China)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

May 2019 to September 2020

Who is funding the study?

Investigator initiated and funded

Who is the main contact?

Wen Li

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Contact information

Type(s)

Public

Contact name

Mr Wen Li

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Additional identifiers

EudraCT/CTIS number

Nil known

IRAS number

ClinicalTrials.gov number

Nil known

Secondary identifying numbers

Nil known

Study information

Scientific Title

The application of the spot the difference teaching method in clinical skills training for residents:
a prospective controlled trial

Study objectives

The novel educational model's short-term and long-term effectiveness is better than the
traditional method for surgical residents.

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Approved 29/11/2019, the Institutional Review Board and Ethics Committee of the West China Hospital of Sichuan University (37 E Guoxue Alley, Chengdu, Sichuan, 610041, People's Republic of China; +86 (0)2885422851; huaxilunli@163.com), ref: not applicable

Study design

Prospective controlled trial

Primary study design

Interventional

Secondary study design

Randomised controlled trial

Study setting(s)

Hospital

Study type(s)

Other

Participant information sheet

Not applicable

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Medical education (clinical skill training for first-year surgical residents)

Interventions

A total of 87 residents are divided into eight subgroups in the order of rotation, and the subgroups are randomly sorted into either a traditional teaching group (the control) (n = 42) or an experimental group (n = 45) using a web-based randomization program. All the residents watch the teaching video before class and then review the material (flawless and flawed) in class. The total duration of intervention and follow-up is 1 year.

Intervention Type

Behavioural

Primary outcome measure

Performance (score) is measured using scoring criteria standards formulated following the 2020 China medical licensing examination at baseline, 3, and 12 months

Secondary outcome measures

Pass rate of medical licensing examination (MLE) measured by collecting the MLE performance (<60 points is considered to be unqualified) at 12 months after training

Overall study start date

30/05/2019

Completion date

30/09/2020

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

1. First-year residents who did not rotate to other surgical departments
2. Obtained a bachelor's degree in medicine

Participant type(s)

Health professional

Age group

Adult

Sex

Both

Target number of participants

100

Total final enrolment

87

Key exclusion criteria

1. Residents who had rotated to other surgical departments before the study
2. Senior residents (working time ≥ 1 year)
3. Residents with a graduate degree
4. Residents who have obtained the qualification certificate of a clinical practitioner

Date of first enrolment

30/09/2019

Date of final enrolment

20/10/2019

Locations

Countries of recruitment

China

Study participating centre

West China Hospital of Sichuan University

37 E Guoxue Alley

Chengdu

Sichuan

610041

Chengdu

China
Chengdu SC 28

Sponsor information

Organisation

West China Hospital of Sichuan University

Sponsor details

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Sponsor type

Hospital/treatment centre

Website

<https://www.wchscu.cn/>

ROR

<https://ror.org/007mrxy13>

Funder(s)

Funder type

Other

Funder Name

Investigator initiated and funded

Results and Publications

Publication and dissemination plan

Planned publication in a high-impact peer-reviewed journal (e.g. BMC Medical Education)

Intention to publish date

08/04/2022

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

The raw data were deposited into the Mendeley Data dataset (<https://data.mendeley.com/datasets>) at <https://doi.org/10.17632/dfrxj839p8.1>

IPD sharing plan summary

Stored in publicly available repository

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Results article		14/07/2022	15/07/2022	Yes	No
Basic results			24/08/2022	No	No
Protocol file			24/08/2022	No	No
Dataset		14/07/2022	03/05/2024	No	No