



Project Title:

Emergency Department Ultrasound: An introduction to the ultrasound assisted clinical exam for medical students.

Project Summary (150 words maximum)

The Emergency Medicine rotation at St. Paul's Hospital (SPH) is an ideal environment to develop a Point of care Ultrasound (POCUS) student training curriculum for many reasons. Emergency Medicine overlaps with many other specialties and as such POCUS for Emergency Medicine is widely applicable. In addition, our Department is already a POCUS center of excellence. Attending staff are credentialed in POCUS as per Canadian Emergency Ultrasound Society guidelines (www.ceus.ca); and our existing POCUS program is an experienced one responsible for; introductory POCUS training for Emergency Medicine residents, the UBC Emergency Ultrasound Fellowship training program, and as a provincial/national training center for practicing physicians. In addition, SPH ED hosts more than 50 medical students a year and is a sought after site for elective students, making it an ideal site to launch this pilot project.

At present, POCUS teaching for Medical students consists of informal bedside teaching. This process is limited by the fact that medical students often lack a basic knowledge of ultrasound physics, principles of image generation and interpretation. We can vastly improve on this process. The goal of this project is to introduce a curriculum to teach medical students key concepts of POCUS as well as how to perform point of care ultrasound for critically ill patients.