

Anatomy Education



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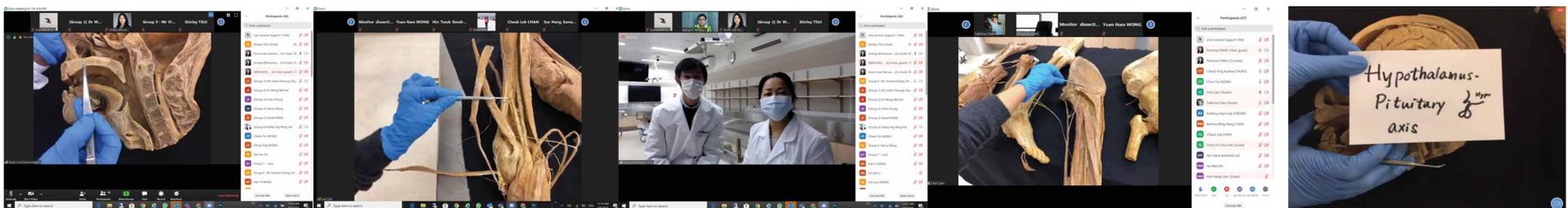
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Background

Anatomy, a subject requires hands-on practicum, is unprecedentedly challenged by the restriction of face-to-face teaching in light of the pandemic. The Video conferencing system (VCS), such as the CUHK's adopted Zoom platform, is a real-time network connecting remote participants from different locations for interactive communication. It is a good alternative for subjects that requires didactic lectures only but might not be a realistic option for anatomy teaching and learning.

Objectives

This presentation describes 1) the challenges in modifying teaching materials that suit for online medium and 2) a teaching strategy in inviting senior peers from medicine (MBChB) and biomedical sciences programs to join the session with junior students from the biomedical engineering and pharmacy programs for discussion of the potential clinical relevance with their learning in anatomical structures.



Student Voices After the Zoom Practical

The breakout room discussion really helps us to understand more :)

I think that the senior peer helps a lot. She can answer our problems instantly and explain well. I think small group discussion or learning with tutor is a good learning tool in this course

Hope the live demonstration can be kept later if necessary.

The senior peer was really helpful to help understanding the practical session. I think in the next practical, it will be better if we are separated into group lead by one TA instead of just in a whole class with one lecturer.

Discussions

Our experience and students' feedback showed that stakeholders overcome the limitation with some concerns. Compared with face-to-face teaching, the demand for teaching preparation for online is neither easy nor light but challenging at another escalated level. It requires a multiple-disciplinary effort in preparing video shooting ahead of the real-time class. On-sites challenges were encountered, including spatial examination of plantinated specimens, didactic interpretation of the anatomical structures and the clinical significance concerned about the structures.



Take Home Message

As this is the first time to run the practical zoom activity, there still have rooms for the improvements. Maybe teacher-in charge should not just one-way to conduct the contents of the learning material; students should do participate the discussion interactively; and more importantly, the internet connection should be stable.

