



Dermatology Equity through Remote Management, Education, and Study

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Background and Purpose: There is limited access to pediatric dermatology consultation in British Columbia's rural communities and primary care providers are often required to manage dermatologic conditions. To facilitate bi-directional learning, we built on our experience with case-based learning and leveraged an existing partnership between UBC Rural Continuing Professional Development, Child Health BC and BC Children's Hospital, Department of Dermatology, to develop a new educational support.

Summary of Innovation: The program is called Dermatology Equity through Remote Management, Education, and Study (DERMES), and consists of 6-sessions that explore common dermatology conditions and build a community of practice. Each session starts with a presentation on a predetermined topic that is followed by interactive case discussions. De-identified cases are submitted by participants to UBC CPD's eLearning portal. The cases allow moderators to influence patient care through consultations, adapt content to participants needs, and facilitate their own bi-directional learning about rural medicine. Next steps include planning for future cohorts and monthly follow-up sessions with past-participants for longitudinal support.

Conclusion: We are evaluating the program through participant surveys and interviews with moderators from the two cohorts we facilitated in 2021. Initial feedback has been positive, with all respondents indicating that they would recommend DERMES to a colleague and that it met their learning objectives. More robust evaluation data will be shared when available. This program has demonstrated an effective method to combine didactic and case-based learning to support bi-directional dermatology education between urban pediatric dermatologists and rural healthcare providers.

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