



Suture workshops: An effective tool for teaching medical students

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Background Suturing is an integral part of medical training but exposure can be limited. **Objectives** Quality assessment of the effectiveness of 2nd year medical student suture workshop. Medical students underwent a training workshop during their clerkship introduction. A questionnaire was then created to assess the perceived usefulness of such a workshop **Methods** The members of the 2012 med 2 class were surveyed following completion of the suture workshop. The suture workshop consisted of both didactic as well as practical sessions. The surveys contained multiple choice and open ended questions. **Results** The surveys had a 90% response rate. Over 75% of clerks who attended the workshop had some prior suture experience. All of the clinical clerks reported the workshop to be useful. 84% of clerks described their level of comfort in suturing prior to the workshop as less than fair. Approximately 38% of clerks thought the didactic session was useful. 86% of clerks found the practice suture boards used during the workshop to be very useful. . All clerks found the practical portion of the workshop useful. Following the workshop more than 91% of clerks described their comfort level, with any type of suturing, as greater than fair. 100% of clerks stated they would like a refresher workshop. **Conclusions** Medical students determine a subjective improvement in suture skills following suture workshops. Clinical clerks appear to prefer a practical approach to suture instruction as compared with didactic sessions.