ISSN: 2042-6372

DOI: 10.5116/ijme.5685.14da

Literature review of teaching skills programs for junior medical officers

Jasan Dannaway, Heryanto Ng, Adrian Schoo

Flinders University, School of Medicine, Sturt Road, Bedford Park, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia

Correspondence: Flinders University, School of Medicine, Sturt Road, Bedford Park, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia. E-mail: Jdan9820@uni.sydney.edu.au

Accepted: December 31, 2015

Abstract

Objectives: The aim of this review was to assess the current evidence regarding the efficacy of teaching skills programs for junior medical officers. We aimed to compare and contrast these results with findings from previous literature reviews, the last of which were published in 2009.

Methods: In order to capture studies since the last published literature reviews, five databases and grey literature were searched for publications from January 2008 to January 2015. A search for literature reviews without using the timeframe limitation was also performed.

Results: The search from January 2008 to January 2015 resulted in the inclusion of 12 studies. Five systematic reviews of the topic were found which included 39 individual studies that were also analysed. Nearly all studies reported positive effects. Twenty nine studies reported

change in attitudes, 28 reported modification in knowledge, 28 reported change in behaviour, 6 reported change in the organisation and two reported change in program participant's students. There were substantial threats of bias present.

Conclusions: The literature reviewed demonstrated many positive effects of teaching skills programs, which supports their utilization. However, high level outcomes need to be evaluated over longer periods of time to establish their true impact. An organisation specific approach to these programs needs to occur using sound course design principles, and they need to be reported in evaluation trials that are designed with robust methodology.

Keywords: Junior medical officer, resident, teaching skills, residents as teachers, medical education

Introduction

There have been a variety of organisational and educational challenges over the last few decades that have impacted on medical education. For example, student numbers are increasing, there is a drive toward evidence based education, and public expectations of a cost effective, responsible health service. This has created a complex struggle for clinical supervisors to balance teaching, research and clinical commitments.

Nearly 80% of final-year medical students in Australia who responded to a survey in 2011 demonstrated an interest in teaching.² Junior medical officers (JMOs) (i.e. not specialists/consultants), spend a large proportion of their time teaching both students and their colleagues.³⁻⁶ Much of the "informal curriculum", including professional values are taught by them when consultants are not around.⁷ Furthermore, residents who teach acquire taught content more effectively than by self-study or lecture attendance,⁸ and their teaching duties have been linked to greater job satisfaction.⁹ In the USA evidence of resident as teachers pro-

grams date back to the 1960's¹¹ and gained popularity in the 1990's. In 1999 in the USA a survey of residency programs found that although residents provided 62% of hospital teaching, only 20% of the programs featured teaching skills programs.¹¹ Literature from the USA has suggested that residents teach ineffectively. Studies have found that residents rarely cited literature, asked questions or gave feedback,¹² were often insufficiently thorough,¹³ and generally did not cover problem solving skills, or psychosocial topics as often as consultants.¹⁴ Unfortunately, in many cases JMOs are expected to develop teaching skills as they proceed through training but often with little formal education on the topic.⁴¹¹⁵ Various innovative programs have been developed in order to positively impact on residents as teachers.

There have been some reviews of the topic. 16-22 Of these reviews five 16,18,19,21,23 have utilised systematic methods the last of which were published in 2009. Interestingly, although one was published in 2004 the others were published in

2008-2009. This may mean that there is overlap in their findings or that reviews have not analysed all available studies, particularly studies from 2008 onwards. Although these studies have generally supported the use of JMO teaching skills programs, the true effectiveness of these programs was unable to be established due to the lack of objective outcome measures and inadequate study designs.¹⁹ A number of recommendations and conclusions were reached by these reviews. Higher levels of evaluations, for example Kirkpatrick level 4 (Table 1) that measures the effect of the intervention in the real world,²⁴ were called for. Longer follow up times were recommended in order to establish the longevity of courses effects. Unfortunately a literature review of this topic has not been performed in some time and there are inconsistencies in the conclusions of prior reviews which make interpretation of this topic difficult.

Objectives

The aim of this review was to assess the current evidence regarding the efficacy of teaching skills programs for junior medical officers. We aimed to compare and contrast these results with findings from previous literature reviews, the last of which were published in 2009, in order to provide up to date conclusions and recommendations regarding this topic

Methods

Search strategy and information sources

Medline, Embase, ERIC, CINAHL, and PsychINFO were searched from January 2008 to January 2015 by JD and HN. Grey literature, including that published by relevant medical bodies, was also utilised. Key words used were resident, registrar, teach, teacher, and education. Relevant papers were all those that had a focus of improving teaching skills of JMOs. Search results were screened by two authors JD and HN. The title and abstract of all results were screened. Full papers were then retrieved for further review if relevant. The references in these articles were also reviewed for further appropriate papers.

A similar search for systematic reviews on the topic without the timeframe limitation was performed to ensure that no studies were missed. Individual studies examined by the systematic reviews on the topic were also included in the analysis.

Eligibility criteria

The following inclusion and exclusion criteria were developed for systematic reviews and individual studies.

Studies were included if participants were JMOs (i.e. not specialists/consultants). If they facilitated a structured teaching programme, detailing the teaching method and content. Included evaluation up to at least Level 2 of Kirkpatrick's model. Non full text studies, not in English or those that included duplicated results were excluded.

Data collection and analysis

A data extraction table was created in order to gather the required data for the review. Included studies were reviewed by JD and HN independently, and resulting data was synthesised. Study objective, context, method (study design, teaching intervention details, evaluation method), results (determined by Kirkpatrick's levels of learning),²⁴ study quality and study outcome were retrieved.

Following independent data collection tables were merged into one and any discrepancies were resolved by consensus. In cases where consensus was not reached, a third reviewer (AS) determined the outcome.

Kirkpatrick's model of evaluation²⁴ (Table 1) was used to categorise the outcomes reported by each of the included studies. The model outlines four progressively sophisticated levels of outcomes. Kirkpatrick's model has existed for many years, is well known, logical, and also provides a convenient way to present outcome information. It has been modified a number of times over the years and for the purpose of our review we have chosen to use the Best Evidence Medical Education (BEME) Collaboration²⁵ version subsequently adapted by Hill et al. 2009¹⁹ to facilitate comparison of the literature.

Overall risk of bias was assessed for each included study. Two authors JD and HN independently evaluated bias using the critical appraisal worksheets for systematic reviews and therapy questions provided by the Centre for Evidence Based Medicine.²⁶

Table 1. Kirkpatrick's model for evaluating educational outcomes 19

Kirkpatrick level	Evaluation outcome	Explanation					
Level 1	Reaction	Participants' views of the learning experience, its organisation, presentation, content, teaching methods, and quality of instruction					
Level 2A	Learning - change in attitudes	Changes in attitudes or perceptions among participant groups towards teaching and learning					
Level 2B	Learning - modification of knowledge or skills	For knowledge, this relates to the acquisition of concepts, procedures and principles For skills, this relates to the acquisition of thinking and problem-solving, psychomotor and social skills					
Level 3	Behaviour - change in behaviours	Documents the transfer of learning to the workplace or willingness of learners to apply new knowledge and skills					
Level 4A	Results - change in the system or organisational practice	Refers to wider changes in the organisation attributable to the educational programme					
Level 4B	Results - change among the participants' students and peers	Refers to improvement in medical student or peer learning or performance as a direct result of the educational intervention					

Results

The database search resulted in 6,373 papers. Following title and abstract review 59 papers were then retrieved for full text review. A hand search of the 59 papers reference list resulted in the retrieval of five more papers that were

scrutinised. Those that did not meet inclusion criteria were excluded. The main reason for exclusion was the study did not describe a teaching skills intervention. All full texts could be retrieved for the review. Following this process a total of 12 of the 64 papers were included in the review.

In addition, seven literature reviews were found of which five were systematic that were included in the current study. The five systematic reviews together analysed 39 different papers. Hill et al. 19 analysed 29 of these studies. The 10 remaining studies were included in one or more of the other reviews. Of these 10 papers four did not include any report on outcomes. There were no disagreements between the two authors regarding inclusion or exclusion.

Characteristics of the studies

Of the 12 individual studies included, all but one was based in North America. One was based in New Zealand,²⁷ two in Canada^{28,29} and the rest in the USA (Table 2). A wide variety of specialties were included. Nine papers focused on one specialty.^{28,36} Five of which were Psychiatry.^{28,30-32,36} Studies included a range of clinical experience levels from postgraduate years 1 to 5. All studies stated the number of participants except one. The total number of included participants over all studies was 1,659, the minimum was 11, maximum 479 and the median was 78.

Table 2. Outline of studies after 2008

Author	Year	Overall		Οι	ıtcon	ne Le		Follow up		
		risk of bias	1	2A	2B	3	4A	4B	Findings	duration
Hill Grady-Weliky Lehman Ostapchuk Donovan Wachtel Dang Daniels-Brady Polan Pien Ricciotti	2010 2011 2012	Low Mod Mod Mod Mod High High High High	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	*****	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	4 4 4 4 4 4 6	✓ ✓	√	Varied Positive	1 year 1 day 3 months 1 year 1 day 1 day 2 months 1 day 1 year 4 years
Pernar Percentage	2013	High	9 12 75	10 12 83	9 12 75	6 12 50	3 12 25	1 12 8	Positive	1 year

*Kirkpatrick levels as described by Hill et al. 2009¹⁹

All studies outlined an aim. Most JMO teaching skills programs were established due to the large amount of resident teaching documented in literature or via internal audits and a lack of available teaching skills opportunities for JMOs. The specificity of study aims varied. Many included secondary objectives such as assessing resident self-reported efficacy.

There were no randomised controlled trials (RCTs). Two were non randomised controlled trials^{27,34} and the rest were uncontrolled trials. Only six studies included a pre intervention outcome measure.^{27,29,31,32,35,37}

There was a variety of follow up times. Six studies stopped follow up immediately after collecting data post workshop. Five studies included follow up to or greater than

one year.^{27,34,36-38} The longest follow up was four years, the entire duration of the residency program.³³

Educational interventions and associated outcomes

Most program types detailed by the included studies were workshops. The shortest teaching program was 1.5 hours²⁹ and the longest was 1.5 days.²⁷ Seven included a single workshop as their intervention, whereas four delivered a series of workshops over time.

A variety of instructional methods were utilised. Most studies delivered content by mixed methods including role-play, brainstorming, reflection, and small-group discussion. Daniels-Brady et al.³⁰ used direct supervision whereby the program director would meet the student weekly in order to advise them. Pernar et al.³⁴ delivered content via emails on a weekly basis over the course of a year.

A variety of teaching content was delivered. Common topics included adult learning principles, feedback, reflection, curriculum orientation, and evaluation. Some authors utilised panels (including various stakeholders such as doctors and program directors) to design course content, while others utilised tools described in the literature. For example, Ostapchuck et al.³⁷ utilised the previously validated^{39,40} Bringing Education and Service Together (BEST) curriculum (with some modifications). Daniels-Brady et al.³⁰ utilised one on one, face to face individualised approach. The program director gave advice on teaching, curriculum of educational resources such as journal articles and observed residents giving feedback. Pernar et al.³⁴ delivered brief statements (29 in total) via email of what constituted good teaching.

All studies included a survey as part of their evaluation. Only two studies included alternative evaluation methods. For example, Ostapchuck et al.³⁷ included focus groups of medical students, and Ricciotti et al.³³ included a faculty assessed Observed Structured Teaching Evaluation (OSTE) (both videotaped and in person). All programs except one⁴¹ (who, instead, surveyed the students taught by them) sought the opinion of the JMOs. Faculty were also utilised to provide assessment of JMOs.

Individual studies published after 2008 showed that a range of Kirkpatrick levels were evaluated (Table 2). Ten studies reported level 1 outcomes, 11 reported level 2a outcomes and 10 level 2b, seven studies reported level 3 outcomes and four studies reported level 4a outcomes. One study reported level 4b outcomes. All studies reported positive findings. Five studies demonstrated positive outcomes in follow up more than or equal to 1 year.^{27,34, 36-38}

Studies published prior to 2008 demonstrated that Kirkpatrick outcome levels were distributed similarly. Sixteen studies reported level 1 outcomes, 18 reported level 2a outcomes and 18 level 2b, 21 studies reported level 3 outcomes and two studies reported level 4a, outcomes. One study reported level 4b outcomes and five studies reported findings that were not positive (Table 3).

Table 3. Outline of studies prior to 2008

Naji	Author	Year	Overall risk of bias —		Ou	tcome	Level	*	Fig. dia au		
Edwards, Kissling and Brennan 1988 Low V Positive Varied 6-7 months Morrison 2003 Low V V Positive 6 months Morrison 2004 Low V V Positive 6 months D'eon 2004 Low V V Positive 6 months Brown 1971 Mod V V Positive 6 months Brown 1980 Mod V V Positive 1 month Lawson 1980 Mod V V Positive 3 months Greenberg 1984 Mod V V Positive 9 months Edwards 1986 Mod V V Positive 9 months Edwards, Kissling and Plauche 1988 Mod V V Positive 8 months Snell 1988 Mod V V Positive 8 months Statzelnick 1991 <				1	2A	2B	3	4A	4B	Findings	Follow up duration
Dunnington 1998 Low V V Varied 6-7 months Morrison 2003 Low V V Positive 6 months Morrison 2004 Low V V Positive 6 months D'eon 2004 Low V V Positive 6 months Brown 1971 Mod V V Positive 1 month Lawson 1980 Mod V V Positive 3 months Greenberg 1984 Mod V V Positive 9 months Edwards 1988 Mod V V Positive 18-24 months Edwards, kissling and Plauche 1988 Mod V V V Positive 8 months Edwards, kissling and Plauche 1988 Mod V V V Positive 18-24 months Sing-You 1990 Mod V V V Positive 8 months </td <td>Naji</td> <td>1986</td> <td>Low</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Positive</td> <td>Unclear</td>	Naji	1986	Low			✓	✓			Positive	Unclear
Morrison 2003 Low V V Positive formorths 6 months formorths D'eon 2004 Low V V Positive formorths 6 months Brown 1971 Mod V V Positive formorths 1 month Lawson 1980 Mod V V Positive Positive Simulation 1 months Jewett 1982 Mod V V Positive Positive Positive Simulation 1 months Greenberg 1984 Mod V V Positive Po	Edwards, Kissling and Brennan	1988	Low				✓			Positive	2.5 years
Morrison 2004 Low	Dunnington	1998	Low	✓		✓	✓			Varied	6-7 months
Deen 2004 Low	Morrison	2003	Low		✓		✓			Positive	6 months
Brown	Morrison	2004	Low		✓		✓			Positive	6 months
Lawson 1980 Mod	D'eon	2004	Low				✓			Positive	6 months
Jewett	Brown	1971	Mod	✓	✓					Positive	<1 month
Positive Promitive Promi	Lawson	1980	Mod		✓		✓			Positive	3 months
Edwards	Jewett	1982	Mod		✓	✓				Positive	6-12 months
Edwards 1986 Mod	Greenberg	1984	Mod		✓					Positive	9 months
Shell 1989 Mod						✓				Positive	18-24 months
Snell 1989 Mod V V Positive 8 months Bing-You 1990 Mod V V Varied 2-11 months Katzelnick 1991 Mod V V Positive 8 months Roberts 1994 Mod V V Positive 6 months Susman and Gilbert 1995 Mod V V Positive 6 months Susman and Gilbert 1995 Mod V V Varied 8 months Susman and Gilbert 1995 Mod V V Varied 8 months Susman and Gilbert 1995 Mod V V Varied 8 months Susman and Gilbert 1995 Mod V V Varied 8 months Susman and Gilbert 1997 Mod V V Varied 8 months Bing-You 1997 Mod V V Positive 12 months Barth	Edwards. Kissling and Plauche		Mod	✓	✓	✓	✓			Positive	Unclear
Katzelnick 1991 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 8 months Roberts 1994 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 6 months Roberts 1994 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 6 months Roberts 1995 Mod ✓ ✓ Varied 8 months Susman and Gilbert 1995 Mod ✓ ✓ Varied 8 months Spickard 1996 Mod ✓ ✓ Varied 8 months Bing-You 1997 Mod ✓ ✓ Varied 8 months Barth 1997 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 12 months Barth 1999 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 12 months Mass 2001 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 1 month Mass 2001 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 1 months Retatarelli and Kasuya 2003 Mod			Mod		✓	✓	✓			Positive	8 months
Katzelnick 1991 Mod ✓ ✓ V V Positive 8 months Roberts 1994 Mod ✓ ✓ V Positive 6 months Roberts 1994 Mod ✓ ✓ V Positive 6 months Susman and Gilbert 1995 Mod ✓ ✓ V aried 8 months Spickard 1996 Mod ✓ ✓ V aried 8 months Bing-You 1997 Mod ✓ ✓ V aried 8 months Barth 1997 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 12 months Barth 1999 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 12 months Mass 2001 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 1 month Mass 2001 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 1 months Rubak 2002 Mod ✓ ✓ V Positive 6 months					✓	✓				Varied	2-11 months
Roberts 1994 Mod			Mod	✓	✓	✓				Positive	
Susman and Gilbert 1995 Mod	Litzelman		Mod				✓	✓		Positive	6 months
Spickard 1996 Mod					✓	✓		✓			
Spickard 1996 Mod				✓		✓					
Bing-You 1997 Mod	Spickard		Mod		✓	✓	✓				8 months
Barth 1997 Mod				✓	✓	✓					
Furney 2001 Mod		1997	Mod			✓					Unclear
Furney 2001 Mod	Wipf	1999	Mod			✓				Positive	3 years
Mass 2001 Mod ✓ Positive Unclear Thomas 2002 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 6 weeks Frattarelli and Kasuya 2003 Mod ✓ ✓ Negative 6 months Pandachuck 2004 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 9 months Hammoud 2004 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 9 months Busari 2006 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 3-4 months Gaba 2007 Mod ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive 6 months Rubak 2008 Mod ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive 6 months Alyer 2008 Mod ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive 6 months White 1997 High ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive 10 weeks Jafri 2007 High ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive At 6 and 9 months				✓		✓	✓				
Thomas 2002 Mod						✓					
Frattarelli and Kasuya 2003 Mod ✓ ✓ Negative Positive Unclear Positive Unclear Positive 9 months Pandachuck 2004 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 9 months Busari 2006 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 3-4 months Gaba 2007 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 6 months Rubak 2008 Mod ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive 6 months Alyer 2008 Mod ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive 10 weeks White 1997 High ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive 10 weeks Jafri 2007 High ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive 1 month Moser 2008 High ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive 1 month 34 18 18 21 2 1 35 39 39 39 39 39				✓	✓				✓		
Pandachuck 2004 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive Unclear Hammoud 2004 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 9 months Busari 2006 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 3-4 months Gaba 2007 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 6 months Rubak 2008 Mod ✓ ✓ Y Positive 6 months Aiyer 2008 Mod ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive Unclear White 1997 High ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive 10 weeks Jafri 2007 High ✓ ✓ Y Positive 1 months Moser 2008 High ✓ ✓ Y Positive At 6 and 9 months 16 18 18 21 2 1 1 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 <				✓	✓						
Hammoud 2004 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 9 months Busari 2006 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 3-4 months Gaba 2007 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 6 months Rubak 2008 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 6 months Alyer 2008 Mod ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive 10 weeks White 1997 High ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive 10 weeks Jafri 2007 High ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive 1 month Moser 2008 High ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive At 6 and 9 month 16 18 18 21 2 1 1 39							✓				
Busari 2006 Mod				/			1				
Gaba 2007 Mod ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive 6 months Rubak 2008 Mod ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive 6 months Aiyer 2008 Mod ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive Unclear White 1997 High ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive 10 weeks Jafri 2007 High ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive 1 month Moser 2008 High ✓ ✓ V Positive At 6 and 9 month 16 18 18 21 2 1 39 39 39 39 39 39							1				
Rubak 2008 Mod ✓ ✓ Positive 6 months Aiyer 2008 Mod ✓ ✓ ✓ Positive Unclear White 1997 High ✓ ✓ Positive 10 weeks Jafri 2007 High ✓ ✓ Positive 1 month Moser 2008 High ✓ V Positive At 6 and 9 month 16 18 18 21 2 1 39 39 39 39 39 39					✓		1				
Aiyer 2008 Mod						✓	✓				
White 1997 High ✓ ✓ Positive 10 weeks Jafri 2007 High ✓ ✓ Positive 1 month Moser 2008 High ✓ Positive At 6 and 9 month 16 18 18 21 2 1 39 39 39 39 39 39				✓	✓		✓				
Jafri 2007 High ✓ ✓ Positive 1 month Moser 2008 High ✓ Positive At 6 and 9 month 16 18 18 21 2 1 39 39 39 39 39 39					•	•	1				
Moser 2008 High ✓ Positive At 6 and 9 mont 16 18 18 21 2 1 39 39 39 39 39					✓						
16 18 18 21 2 1 39 39 39 39 39 39				•	•						
		2000	i ngu				21			1 0311110	, to and 5 months
	Percentage			41	46	46	54	5	3		

*Kirkpatrick levels as described by Hill et al. 2009¹⁹

Appraising and weighting the evidence

Individual studies published after 2008 showed substantial threats to their internal validity. Of the uncontrolled trials only five included pre and post intervention outcome measures and none of the non-randomised controlled trials did so. Some studies had small samples sizes. Six studies had more than 10% loss to follow up which was not consistently explained. Only two papers used validated (or variations of) surveys and objective outcome measures.^{27,33} There was response bias present in some studies as participation was voluntary and thus likely to attract those who were keen to teach.

Five literature reviews of varying quality were included in the analysis. The study by Wamsley et al. 2004¹⁶ was the earliest detected review in this area. The review only searched Medline for studies between 1975 and 2003. Fourteen papers were included in the analysis. There was no bias risk assessment performed, and there was some heterogeneity in the results found.

Dewey and colleagues¹⁸ conducted a systematic review of trials with an interest in gathering information on how to develop teaching skills in psychiatry residents. They searched a number of databases and 13 studies were identified and analysed. Methodological quality and study charac-

teristics were quantified, but they did not specify the period by which they searched.

Hill and colleagues¹⁹ performed a review to determine the characteristics of effective teaching skills programs. They searched a number of databases from 1971 and 2008, and performed a bias risk assessment of the 29 included studies

Lacasse et al.²¹ conducted a systematic review of resident teaching with a focus on family medicine. They identified eight studies from 1950 to 2008 (they only searched two databases and have missed studies) that all included family medicine residents. They did not perform a bias risk assessment of included studies.

Post et al.²³ reported on 24 studies from 1975 to 2008 that looked at programs that were designed to improve resident teaching skills. Although they provided a descriptive review of these studies, they did not include an individualised risk to bias of the studies included in their review. They did quantify aspects of study design.

Studies published prior to 2008 of which were included in the five literature reviews demonstrated many threats to validity. That said the quality of these was generally more robust than that of the studies published after 2008. There were 12 RCTs. There were nine non-randomised controlled trials and 14 uncontrolled trials. The methodological quality

of the RCTs varied. Randomisation methods, concealment of randomisation, group differences at baseline and blinding of raters were poorly reported and adjusted for, although this is difficult to do with RCTs of this topic. Only three studies had over 10% loss to follow up.⁴²⁻⁴⁴ Only four studies did not utilise objective outcome measures.⁴⁴⁻⁴⁷ Of the non-randomised controlled trials all included pre and post intervention outcome measures. Three used validated, reliable and objective outcome measures.⁴⁸⁻⁵⁰ Seven of the uncontrolled trials included complete pre and post intervention outcome measures.⁵¹⁻⁵⁶ Six used validated and reliable outcome measures.⁵¹⁻⁵⁶ Seven studies utilised objective outcome measures.^{52, 54, 55, 57-59}

Discussion

This review has made an assessment of the current evidence regarding the efficacy of teaching skills programs for junior medical officers. These results have built upon findings from previous literature reviews, the last of which were published in 2009.

Consistent with previous literature reviews, studies regularly demonstrated a positive impact on perceptions and attitudes towards teaching (Kirkpatrick level 2a). Positive impact was also demonstrated supporting modification of knowledge or skills (Kirkpatrick level 2b) Although substantial bias is present in most studies, which prevents definite conclusions regarding the real impact of teaching programs on developing JMOs teaching skills (Kirkpatrick level 3), the results are more likely to be positive than negative. Improving student learning (Kirkpatrick level 4b) through teaching programs was only investigated by one study after 2008, who did not prove benefit.19 Studies did demonstrate that positive organisational change could occur due to the intervention (Kirkpatrick level 4a). One study created a teaching resident position that enabled the dual benefit to the resident and the students that the resident was teaching.30 Another created a "train the trainer" program which enabled the dissemination of teaching skills courses across the organisation.³⁸ Ostapchuck et al. found that their teaching skills program led to invitations for the delivery of the program to other areas of the organisation, became a point of difference to attract residents to their program and gained interest from the education board.³⁷ Level 4b changes, are difficult to evaluate and are seldom reported. One study Hill et al 2012²⁷ implemented a 1.5 day workshop to 34 interns which demonstrated improvement using the intern clinical teaching effectiveness instrument when compared to control hospitals. However, objective structured clinical examination results of medical students taught by these interns, did not demonstrate any significant intersite differences. Although in this setting there was no difference found this study demonstrated an innovative method to assess this outcome.

Evidence for teaching skills programs

There were five systematic reviews identified through the search with a combined total of 39 studies that were analysed. Hill et al.¹⁹ analysed 29 of these studies. The six studies^{39,45,47,51,52,60} that they did not include have added further information although do not change the overall findings of their review. We therefore feel that the review by Hill and colleagues represent well the literature prior to 2008

The individual analysis of all 39 studies demonstrates clearly that there is convincing evidence that supports the efficacy of JMO teaching skills courses in improving Kirkpatrick outcomes up to level 3. Six studies had a low risk of bias. The most well-constructed studies were those by Morrison et al.^{39,40} who also generally reported positive outcomes up to and including level 3. One of the six studies⁵³ found results that may not be sustainable, which indicates the ongoing need for longer detailed follow up in this area. There were 12 randomised controlled trials of varying quality. When these studies where analysed as a group they reveal similar findings as discussed above.

Twelve studies published after 2008 were identified that reported outcomes regarding teaching skills programs for JMOs. This group consists of studies with heterogeneous designs, programs, and outcome measures. All studies reveal useful insights, although it is difficult to quantify the effects of programs on teaching skills of JMOs. There is significant evidence that teaching skills programs have subjective positive effects on all Kirkpatrick outcome levels. Unfortunately, what is not present is strong evidence for objective positive effects for higher levels of outcomes (Kirkpatrick levels 2b, 3 or 4) and their effects over time. In this sense these studies have not been able to add more evidence to this important topic.

Implications for designing and delivering teaching skills programs for JMOs

Literature reviews to date have aimed to find the aspects of a JMO teaching skills program that make it effective. To date this has proven difficult due to the heterogeneity of programs reported. The evidence so far suggests that looking for a common "formula" may be a flawed approach, but that the incorporation of individualised teaching skills initiatives into the JMO curriculum is likely a more effective approach. Detailing this process is beyond the scope of this article but the following are some suggestions.

Important components of curriculum design include a situational analysis, statements of intent (aims, objectives, outcomes), content, implementation and organisational strategies, assessment, and monitoring and evaluation all need to be considered (not necessarily in any particular order). One helpful guide is Susan Toohey's (1999) "course design process" that suggests a sequence of events for the design process. Adult learning principles should be

Int J Med Educ. 2016;7:25-31 29

considered at all points during the design process. ⁶² Finally, the Kirkpatrick's model of evaluation is a good way to conceptualise, design and report evaluation. Evaluation methods, ideally, need to make use of valid and reliable outcome measures such as the Personal Teacher Identity Scale, OSTE, Clinical Teaching Assessment Form, Stanford Faculty Development Program Form-26, Clinical Teaching Effectiveness Instrument or the Resident Leadership Scale to establish the effect of programs on teaching skills of JMOs and their impact on those who they teach.

Limitations

There were some limitations to our review. Included studies were largely heterogeneous in their methods and chosen interventions. All studies but one were conducted in North America. A large number were conducted at single institutions and only involved one discipline, which makes generalizability of results difficult.

Implications and recommendations for further research

Unfortunately, we have demonstrated that studies on this subject have substantial methodological flaws. We do however appreciate the difficulties involved with designing the ideal trial. From a methodological perspective future trials should ideally be prospective randomised controlled trials. These trials should be designed to avoid issues with internal validity. This includes pre and post intervention assessment, valid randomisation methods with concealment, blinding of assessors if applicable and the use of validated, reliable and objective outcome measures. Also, these trials should use a standardised process of reporting outcomes (we suggest the Kirkpatrick model), so that their results can be easily interpreted and compared with other studies. They should focus on determining the effects of programs on high Kirkpatrick's levels including 2b, 3, 4a, 4b and whether the effects are long lasting.

Conclusions

In reviewing the literature on teaching skills programs for JMOs the findings of published literature reviews and individual studies have been considered and appraised. Teaching skills are important for JMOs to possess. Longer follow up times are needed to establish the impact of these programs in the real world. Since medical programs vary, no set "formula" for these educational programs can be applied. An individualized approach should occur with sound course and research design principles followed.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

References

- 1. Bligh J, Prideaux D, Parsell G. PRISMS: new educational strategies for medical education. Med Educ. 2001;35(6):520-1.
- 2. Hubraq H. Medical schools outcomes database project. 2011 EQ [exit questionnaire] national data report. Sydney: Medical Deans Australia and New Zealand: 2012.

- 3. Zabar S, Hanley K, Stevens DL, Kalet A, Schwartz MD, Pearlman E, et al. Measuring the competence of residents as teachers. J Gen Intern Med. 2004;19(5 Pt 2):530-3.
- 4. Morrison EH, Hafler JP. Yesterday a Learner, Today a Teacher Too: Residents as Teachers in 2000. Pediatrics. 2000;105(Supplement 2):238-41.
- 5. LaPalio LR. Time study of students and house staff on a university medical service. J Med Educ. 1981;56(1):61-4.
- 6. Elliot DL, Skeff KM, Stratos GA. How do you get to the improvement of teaching? A longitudinal faculty development program for medical educators. Teaching and Learning in Medicine. 1999;11(1):52-7.
- 7. Stern DT. In search of the informal curriculum: when and where professional values are taught. Acad Med. 1998;73(10 Suppl):\$28-30.
- 8. Weiss V, Needlman R. To teach is to learn twice. Resident teachers learn more. Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med. 1998;152(2):190-2.
- 9. Morrison EH, Shapiro JF, Harthill M. Resident doctors' understanding of their roles as clinical teachers. Med Educ. 2005;39(2):137-44.
- 10. Brown RS. Pedagogy for surgical house staff. J Med Educ. 1971;46(1): 93-5.
- 11. Bing-You RG, Tooker J. Teaching skills improvement programmes in US internal medicine residencies. Med Educ. 1993;27(3):259-65.
- 12. Skeff KM. Enhancing teaching effectiveness and vitality in the ambul atory setting. J Gen Intern Med. 1988;3(2 Suppl):S26-33.
- 13. Wray NP, Friedland JA, Ashton CM, Scheurich J, Zollo AJ. Characteristics of house staff work rounds on two academic general medicine services. J Med Educ. 1986;61(11):893-900.
- 14. Tremonti LP, Biddle WB. Teaching behaviors of residents and faculty members. J Med Educ. 1982;57(11):854-9.
- 15. Aldeen AZ, Gisondi MA. Bedside teaching in the emergency department. Acad Emerg Med. 2006;13(8):860-6.
- 16. Wamsley MA, Julian KA, Wipf JE. A literature review of "resident-asteacher" curricula: do teaching courses make a difference? J Gen Intern Med. 2004;19(5 Pt 2):574-81.
- 17. Busari JO, Scherpbier AJ. Why residents should teach: a literature review. J Postgrad Med. 2004;50(3):205-10.
- 18. Dewey CM, Coverdale JH, Ismail NJ, Culberson JW, Thompson BM, Patton CS, et al. Residents-as-teachers programs in psychiatry: a systematic review. Canadian Journal of Psychiatry. 2008;53(2):77-84.
- 19. Hill AG, Yu TC, Barrow M, Hattie J. A systematic review of resident-asteacher programmes. Med Educ. 2009;43(12):1129-40.
- 20. Cullimore AJ, Dalrymple JL, Dugoff L, Hueppchen NA, Casey PM, Chuang AW, et al. The obstetrics and gynaecology resident as teacher. J Obstet Gynaecol Can. 2010;32(12):1176-85.
- 21. Lacasse M, Ratnapalan S. Teaching-skills training programs for family medicine residents: systematic review of formats, content, and effects of existing programs. Can Fam Physician. 2009;55(9):902-3.e1-5.
- 22. Al Fahim M, Saleh AK. Residents as Teachers: The Concept, Rationale and Challenges. Ibnosina J Med BS. 2014;6(2):62-66.
- 23. Post RE, Quattlebaum RG, Benich JJ 3rd. Residents-as-teachers curricula: a critical review. Acad Med. 2009;84(3):374-80.
- 24. Kirkpatrick DL. Evaluating training programs: McGraw-Hill Education (India) Pvt Limited; 1975.
- 25. Steinert Y, Mann K, Centeno A, Dolmans D, Spencer J, Gelula M, et al. A systematic review of faculty development initiatives designed to improve teaching effectiveness in medical education: BEME Guide No. 8. Med Teach. 2006;28(6):497-526.
- $26. \ \ Centre \ for \ Evidence \ Based \ Medicine. \ \ Critical \ appraisal \ tools. \ \ 2005 \ [cited 14 October 2014]; \ Available \ from: \ http://www.cebm.net.$
- 27. Hill AG, Srinivasa S, Hawken SJ, Barrow M, Farrell SE, Hattie J, et al. Impact of a resident-as-teacher workshop on teaching behavior of interns and learning outcomes of medical students. J Grad Med Educ. 2012;4(1):34-
- 28. Dang K, Waddell AE, Lofchy J. Teaching to Teach in Toronto. Acad Psychiatry. 2010:34(4):277-81.
- 29. Donovan A. Radiology resident teaching skills improvement: impact of a resident teacher training program. Acad Radiol. 2011;18(4):518-24.
- 30. Daniels-Brady C, Rieder R. An assigned teaching resident rotation. Acad Psychiatry. 2010;34(4):263-8.
- 31. Grady-Weliky TA, Chaudron LH, Digiovanni SK. Psychiatric residents' self-assessment of teaching knowledge and skills following a brief "psychiat-

- ric residents-as-teachers" course: a pilot study. Acad Psychiatry. 2010;34(6) $\cdot 442\text{-}4$
- 32. Lehmann SW. A longitudinal "teaching-to-teach" curriculum for psychiatric residents. Acad Psychiatry. 2010;34(4):282-6.
- 33. Ricciotti HA, Dodge LE, Head J, Atkins KM, Hacker MR. A novel resident-as-teacher training program to improve and evaluate obstetrics and gynecology resident teaching skills. Med Teach. 2012;34(1):e52-7.
- 34. Pernar LI, Corso K, Lipsitz SR, Breen E. Using spaced education to teach interns about teaching skills. Am J Surg. 2013;206(1):120-7.
- 35. Wachtel JK, Greenberg MR, Smith AB, Weaver KR, Kane BG. Residents as teachers: residents' perceptions before and after receiving instruction in clinical teaching. J Am Osteopath Assoc. 2013;113(1):23-33.
- 36. Polan HJ. Experiential anamnesis and group consensus: an innovative method to teach residents to teach. Acad Psychiatry. 2010;34(4):287-90.
- 37. Ostapchuk M, Patel PD, Miller KH, Ziegler CH, Greenberg RB, Haynes G. Improving residents' teaching skills: a program evaluation of residents as teachers course. Med Teach. 2010;32(2):e49-56.
- 38. Pien LC, Taylor CA, Traboulsi E, Nielsen CA. A pilot study of a "resident educator and life-long learner" program: using a faculty train-the-trainer program. J Grad Med Educ. 2011;3(3):332-6.
- 39. Morrison EH, Rucker L, Boker JR, Hollingshead J, Hitchcock MA, Prislin MD, et al. A pilot randomized, controlled trial of a longitudinal residents-as-teachers curriculum. Acad Med. 2003;78(7):722-9.
- 40. Morrison EH, Rucker L, Boker JR, Gabbert CC, Hubbell FA, Hitchcock MA, et al. The effect of a 13-hour curriculum to improve residents' teaching skills: a randomized trial. Ann Inter Med. 2004;141(4):257-63.
- 41. Moser EM, Kothari N, Stagnaro-Green A. Chief residents as educators: an effective method of resident development. Teach Learn Med. 2008;20(4):323-8.
- 42. Edwards JC, Kissling GE, Brannan JR, Plauche WC, Marier RL. Study of teaching residents how to teach. J Med Educ. 1988;63(8):603-10.
- 43. D'Eon MF. Evaluation of a teaching workshop for residents at the University of Saskatchewan: a pilot study. Acad Med. 2004;79(8):791-7.
- 44. Hammoud MM, Haefner HK, Schigelone A, Gruppen LD. Teaching residents how to teach improves quality of clerkship. Am J Obstet Gynecol. 2004;191(5):1741-5.
- 45. Mass S, Shah SS, Daly SX, Sultana CJ. Effect of feedback on obstetrics and gynecology residents' teaching performance and attitudes. J Reprod Med. 2001;46(7):669-74.
- 46. Furney SL, Orsini AN, Orsetti KE, Stern DT, Gruppen LD, Irby DM. Teaching the one-minute preceptor. A randomized controlled trial. J Gen Intern Med. 2001;16(9):620-4.

- 47. Bing-You RG, Greenberg LW, Wiederman BL, Smith CS. A randomized multicenter trial to improve resident teaching with written feedback. Teach Learn Med. 1997;9(1):10-3.
- 48. Spickard A 3rd, Corbett EC Jr, Schorling JB. Improving residents' teaching skills and attitudes toward teaching. J Gen Intern Med. 1996;11(8):475-80
- 49. Gaba ND, Blatt B, Macri CJ, Greenberg L. Improving teaching skills in obstetrics and gynecology residents: evaluation of a residents-as-teachers program. Am J Obstet Gynecol. 2007;196(1):87.e1-7.
- 50. Snell L. Improving medical residents' teaching skills. Annals of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. 1989;22(2):125-8.
- 51. Aiyer M, Woods G, Lombard G, Meyer L, Vanka A. Change in residents' perceptions of teaching: following a one day "Residents as Teachers" (RasT) workshop. South Med J. 2008;101(5):495-502.
- 52. Barth RJ Jr, Rowland-Morin PA, Mott LA, Burchard KW. Communication effectiveness training improves surgical resident teaching ability. J Am Coll Surg. 1997;185(6):516-9.
- 53. Edwards JC, Kissling GE, Plauche WC, Marier RL. Long-term evaluation of training residents in clinical teaching skills. J Med Educ. 1986;61(12):967-70
- 54. Lawson BK, Harvill LM. The evaluation of a training program for improving residents' teaching skills. J Med Educ. 1980;55(12):1000-5.
- 55. Susman JL, Gilbert CS. A brief faculty development program for family medicine chief residents. Teach Learn Med. 1995;7(2):111-4.
- 56. Wipf JE, Orlander JD, Anderson JJ. The effect of a teaching skills course on interns' and students' evaluations of their resident--teachers. Acad Med. 1999;74(8):938-42.
- 57. Bing-You RG. Differences in teaching skills and attitudes among residents after their formal instruction in teaching skills. Acad Med. 1990;65(7):483-4.
- 58. Katzelnick DJ, Gonzales JJ, Conley MC, Shuster JL, Borus JF. Teaching psychiatric residents to teach. Acad Psychiatry. 1991;15(3):153-9.
- 59. Roberts KB, DeWitt TG, Goldberg RL, Scheiner AP. A program to develop residents as teachers. Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med. 1994;148(4):405-10
- 60. Naji SA, Maguire GP, Fairbairn SA, Goldberg DP, Faragher EB. Training clinical teachers in psychiatry to teach interviewing skills to medical students. Med Educ. 1986;20(2):140-7.
- 61. Toohey S. Designing courses for higher education. London: Society for Research into Higher Education & Open University Press; 1999.
- 62. Kaufman DM, Mann KV, Muijtjens AM, van der Vleuten CP. A comparison of standard-setting procedures for an OSCE in undergraduate medical education. Acad Med. 2000;75(3):267-71.

Int J Med Educ. 2016;7:25-31 31