EP.TU.480**Novel virtual near-peer surgical teaching for foundation doctors**

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Aims: Studies have shown that new medical graduates feel unprepared for their role as clinicians. Courses and teachings have been cancelled due to COVID-19. Our aim was to assess demand for surgical teaching and provide a new surgical course delivered virtually to fill this gap.

Methods: FY1 doctors from a large teaching hospital were invited to fill in a questionnaire to assess their preparedness for surgical specialties and subsequent appetite for near-peer teaching. The findings were used to create a virtual surgical teaching course. A post-course questionnaire was distributed to assess the success of the course.

Results: Fifteen FY1 doctors completed the questionnaire. 73% (11) felt they had not had sufficient teaching on surgical specialties during medical school. 93% (14) felt they did not have sufficient teaching on managing surgical patients in foundation training. None felt 'very confident' managing patients peri-operatively. None felt 'very confident' managing surgical complications. 66.7% (10) and 53.3% (8) said they had not had any teaching from SHOs or SpRs respectively. Of those who had, 66.7% (4) and 85.7% (6) found it 'very useful'. 100% (15) said they would be interested in surgical teaching delivered by CSTs. Twelve FY1 doctors completed the post-course feedback. 83% (10) found the course 'extremely useful' and relevant to their surgical ward based jobs.

Conclusion: FY1s are not confident in managing surgical patients on the wards. There is a demand for surgical teaching for FY1s. Virtual lunch-time teaching is an effective way to encourage and continue surgical teaching throughout the pandemic.