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Caring for you at Hospice and Home

Introduction of an interactive teaching session in Palliative Care for 4th year Medical Students

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Background to project

- 4th year HYMS students receive one week of dedicated Palliative Care experience and teaching at the local Hospice.
- Experiences and exposure in palliative care can vary between students potentially limiting the opportunities for meaningful clinical encounters.
- Feedback from students has highlighted a desire for more interactive elements and clinical exposure during this placement.
- This project aimed to provide opportunity for students to practice skills relating to palliative and end of life care in a simulation style environment.



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Reasoning

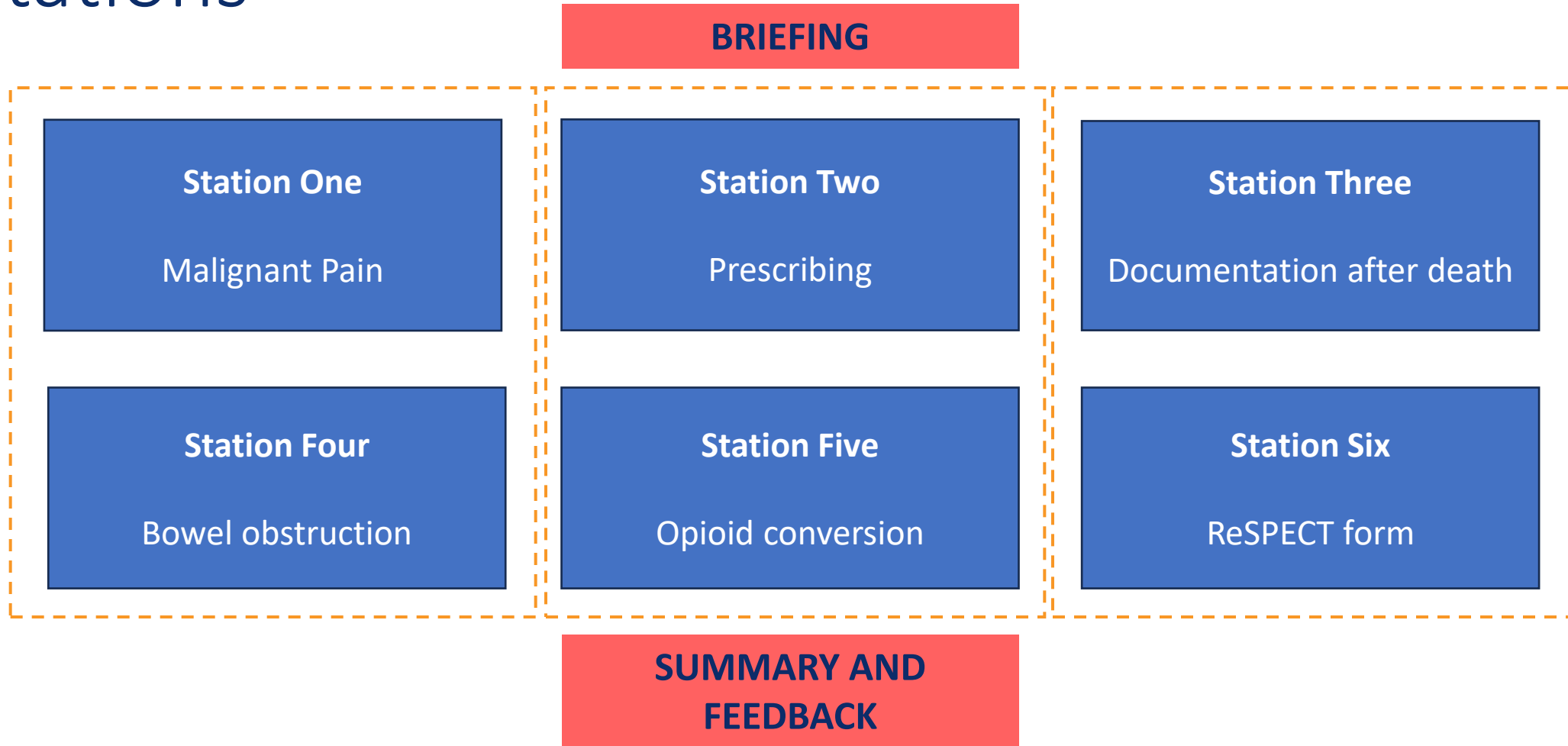
- The use of simulation-based teaching in medicine is well evidenced and increasingly common and has been shown to improve clinical outcomes, through enhanced skill acquisition in a safe and controlled environment. ^[1]
- Simulation-based learning in Palliative Medicine is not new. It allows for development of communication and interpersonal skills, self-reflection, and end of life care. ^[1]
- Near-peer teaching has been shown to be well received by learners, being relevant to assessment, at an appropriate level of difficulty when delivered in a supportive environment. ^[2]

Delivery

- An OSCE style circuit was piloted for the first time
- Facilitated by Resident Doctors and a HYMS Tutor (GP with a specialist interest)
- Briefing and summary were essential to the students learning due to the challenging topics



Stations



Summary and Feedback

*"The OSCE session
was especially very
useful"*

- Summary and reflection on learning points

1st time delivered (6 students):

- 83% of students rated the session as "Excellent" and 17% as "Good"

2nd time delivered (8 students):

- 100% of students rated the session as "Excellent".
- Importance of scripts and near-peer teaching.



Going Forward

- Continued development of resources
 - APM Curriculum and Resident Doctor cases
- Resident Doctor engagement
- Expanding delivery to other sites



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References

[1] Elendu, Chukwuka; Amaechi, Dependable C.; Okatta, Alexander U.; Amaechi, Emmanuel C.; Elendu, Tochi C.; Ezech, Chiamaka P.; Elendu, Ijeoma D. The impact of simulation-based training in medical education: A review. *Medicine* 103(27):p e38813, July 05, 2024. | DOI: 10.1097/MD.00000000000038813

[2] de Menezes S, Premnath D. Near-peer education: a novel teaching program. *Int J Med Educ*. 2016 May 30;7:160-7. doi: 10.5116/ijme.5738.3c28.

