Options for Moving Clerkship to a Digital/Distance Learning Experience

Quick tips are below. For specific resources, please see the [crowdsourced list](#).

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<th>Clerkship Curricular Element</th>
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| Readings                    | • Host readings in your learning management system  
   • Help students debrief the article. Some options:  
     o Use the discussion board feature in your LMS to ask a question and get their responses  
     o Have a journal club by webconference  
     o Ask students to submit questions or quiz/flash cards they make based on the article, to help them study  
   • Post the article URL or PDF in line with copyright laws; see your librarians if you have questions  
   • Moderating the asynchronous discussion board postings fosters success – learners need to know you are ‘present’  
   • Set a response word limit (e.g. 250 words on your answer)  
   • Set expectation for engagement (e.g. respond with a thoughtful comment to 2 posts from your peers) | |
| Academic Half Day or Lectures | o Host a live ‘lecture’ session in a webconferencing tool  
   o Pre-record the ‘lecture’ using a webconferencing tool and post the URL to the recording in your Learning Management System | o Create engagement with [active learning strategies](#)  
   o Use the polling feature to create engagement in live sessions  
   o Ask students to participate in small group discussions using break-out rooms in the webconferencing tool |
| Direct Observation | o While not the complete patient encounter, there are online video tools that allow the clerkship to present a video (Standardized Patient or faculty presenting the scenario) and record and score a student response. This works well for history taking, or consults (e.g. palliative care). See for example [YouSeeU](#) | o You will need to create the patient vignette and set the ‘timer’ for students to pause and compile their verbal response  
   o Faculty will need to set aside time to score the student responses (or engage Standardized Patients who can assess learners) |
| Patient Cases | Many virtual patient case formats allow learners to complete the history, physical examination, investigations, differential and a management plan.  
| | Newer technologies in Virtual Reality allow patient encounters on 2D computer screens or in Virtual Reality.  
| | The physical exam in a virtual environment often asks learners to locate on a picture (or click on the name of an anatomical region) where they would do PE and then gives the findings to the learner.  
| | Deliberate practice with virtual patients helps students hone cognitive clinical reasoning skills. |