

CAME Voice/Voix

MedEdPORTAL: One key route to peer-reviewed publication of educational materials. David Keegan, University of Calgary

You've probably heard of MedEdPORTAL, and you may even have poked around their website a bit (www.mededportal.org). This brief article is to illuminate how MEP works, how it can support your teaching, and how it can enable you to get your educational materials published.

First, a few years ago, MedEdPORTAL shook things up by creating different categories of materials. Their main category is 'MedEdPORTAL Publications', the library of peer-reviewed and published educational materials. All of the materials in Publications went through MedEdPORTAL's own peer-review process. There are all sorts of resources here, including cases, videos, virtual patients, lecture slide sets, and lots of other things besides. All materials in the collection are free from copyright issues (meaning that there are no third-party copyright images or other components in a submission, unless written authorization to reproduce them is provided). The reason for this is that materials in Publications are open-access to anyone who signs up for a free account and can be used 'as is' or they can be changed to suit different needs.

Second, there is 'iCollaborative'. This is a collection of materials that have NOT been peer-reviewed by MEP, but may have been peer-reviewed by other groups. Prior to iCollaborative, MedEdPORTAL would sometimes accept the peer review of other groups and publish materials; all of these "collection review" publications have been moved to iCollaborative. Finally, there is the 'CE Directory', which is a reference site for continuing education resources that are hosted on external sites.

Scholars should focus on the first category: Publications. If you "publish" things under the other two arms, they will NOT count as peer-reviewed educational publications (unless they were subjected to an alternate peer-review process). The submission to MedEdPORTAL Publications is relatively straight-forward. Any materials you wish to submit need to be original and free of copyright issues and identifying patient information, must have an instructor guide which describes the materials and how to use them, describe the evaluation of the materials by target learners, and must meet the criteria for scholarship¹ adapted from Glassick et al.²

All Canadian medical schools are members of the AAMC so your institution is already supporting MedEdPortal. Why not take a look, make use of what's there and think about contributing if you can.

¹MedEdPORTAL Publications Submission Standards:

https://www.mededportal.org/download/262700/data/mepsubmissionstandards.pdf ²Glassick C, Huber M and Maeroff G. *Scholarship Assessed*. 1997. SanFrancisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.