



CAME Voice/Voix

Practical Doc – Teaching tools and clinical resources for generalists

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There are a great many online resources for hospital-based physicians but the fare can be a lot thinner for community and rural physicians who may be looking for information and support, particularly as it can often be hard to find locally when working in a rural community.

Practical Doc is one response to the ongoing need to provide practicing rural physicians with a place where they can access online skills, resources, and support. Practical Doc provides a curated gateway to important clinical websites, podcasts and videos. Targeted towards rural physicians, Practical Doc was developed by the Alberta Rural Physician Action Plan in 2013 and structured to be easily accessible on desktop or mobile devices. Site content is divided into three categories: clinical resources, technology and teaching. www.PracticalDoc.ca

The teaching component, which is widely applicable to all clinical teaching, includes Practical Prof – a user manual for community medical teachers www.practicaldoc.ca/teaching/practical-prof/. It provides some educational theory and then focuses on common teaching techniques such as the One Minute Preceptor, RIME and SNAPPS, highlighting these with short how-to videos. The videos are available on YouTube www.youtube.com/watch?v=P0XgABFzcgE and have been used in teaching across Canada and the US and even into China. Additional sections review observation, feedback and evaluation techniques and give some tips about dealing with the learner in difficulty.

We're always on the lookout for new content to add to the all the components of Practical Doc, If you have a teaching or clinical resource that would be a good addition please contact me at hugh.hindle@rpap.ab.ca.