DESCRIPTIVES MODULE:  
THE POWER OF THE STUDENT EDUCATOR

Maria McGowan MD¹, Janiene Luke MD¹, Hannah Hill MD², Sharon Jacob MD¹

1 – Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, California
2 – Mayo School of Graduate Education, Scottsdale, Arizona
Paradigms in Dermatology Education

- Preceptored clinics
- Bedside rounds
- Didactic lectures
- Grand Rounds
- Journal clubs
Objective

To create a multi-modular learning activity that stimulates meaningful learning to learners with a wide range of learning styles, strengths, and life experiences.

- Adult learning theory

- V.A.R.K. model of learning
  (Visual, Aural, Reading/Writing, Kinesthetic)
Adult Learning Theory

- Self-directed
- Internally motivated
- Active learning
- Goal-oriented
- Potential for immediate use

- Dependent on authority figure
- Externally motivated
- Passive learning
- Education for education’s sake
- Regardless of relevance
V.A.R.K.

Visual

Aural

Read/Write

Kinesthetic
The Descriptives Module

Visual
- Kodachrome Workbook

Aural

Read/Write

Kinesthetic
• What is the primary lesion?

• Is there a secondary lesion?

• What are your top 3 differential diagnoses?

• What would you like to do next?
The Descriptives Module

Visual
• Kodachrome Workbook

Read/Write
• Slide Composition

Aural

Kinesthetic
• Slide Composition
Clofazimine Dyschromia

• Definition/Presentation
  – Pigmentary abnormality secondary to clofazimine. May vary from pink to black. Clofazimine dyschromia is especially common in light exposed areas. Secretions may also be discolored.
  – Clofazimine is used in leprosy and sulfone resistance.
  – This patient presented after completion of clofazimine therapy. While there are residual patches of blue-grey hyperpigmentation, cell-mediated immunity towards the dyschromia resulted in patches of hypopigmentation.

• Epidemiology
  – Affects 75-100% of patients on clofazimine

• Prognosis
  – Generally, color will gradually return to normal after discontinuation of clofazimine.
  – Should evaluate patient for depression

• Diagnosis
  – A thorough history to determine new medications or other illnesses.

• Treatment
  – Discontinue clofazimine. Skin color will normalize in months to years.

• Pearls
  – Few processes lead to this blue-grey discoloration: ashy dermatosis, flagellate erythema, amiodarone dyschromia
  – Clofazimine may be used to treat other dyschromias, such as ashy dermatosis (erythema dyschromicum perstans)
  – Not commercially available in the US. Must be requested through National Hansen’s disease Program.
  – Brand name: Lamprene
The Descriptives Module

Visual
- Kodachrome Workbook

Aural
- Resident Conference

Read/Write
- Slide Composition

Kinesthetic
- Slide Composition
- Presentation
Results

- All students opted to participate
- Seven of the ten students participated after the conclusion of their rotation
- Resident continuity lectures
- Facilitated evaluation of learners in parallel
Conclusion

Learner-centered modalities can provide learning opportunities in ways that appeal to diverse learners.
References

1: Whitman N., Weiss E., Bishop E. M. *Executive Skills for Medical Faculty, 2nd ed.*, University of Utah, p. 99.

2: Mahan J. D, Stein D. S. “Teaching Adults – Best Practices that Leverage the Emerging Understanding of Neurobiology of Learning.” *Current Problems Pediatric Adolescent*


