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LITTMANN UNIVERSITY CASE STUDY

Replacing traditional manikin teaching with app-based learning

THE CHALLENGE

Patient simulators have long been a popular resource for training medical and nursing students. Although proven to be effective in simulating the physical assessment of a patient, they have had their limitations.

Barriers to teaching include heavy start-up and maintenance costs, a limited number of accessories available to students and a small heart sound library that may not accurately replicate real patient heart sounds. In addition, there has been a rise in “off-campus/on-line” programs that have a need for advanced learning tools for remote learning.

WHAT IS LITTMANN UNIVERSITY & LITTMANN LEARNING? CAN THEY HELP MY PROGRAM?

Littmann University and Littmann Learning are interactive apps for instructors to use in teaching, and for trainees to use in building their confidence with cardiac auscultation. Littmann University engages students in learning by enabling instructors to stream real patient heart sound recordings through virtual classrooms directly to their students' devices. An exhaustive heart sound library contains many examples of pathologic and innocent murmurs, healthy heart sounds, and more. Instructors can perform group testing with students and receive immediate summaries of the answers submitted.

Littmann Learning reinforces learning by offering self-directed learning modules directly on the student's phone. Learners can read background cardiology material as it relates to heart murmurs, progress through a series of interactive listening modules, and test their skills at various proficiency levels.

BOOK A DEMO

 littmann@mmm.com

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We have recently switched from manikins to Littmann University for our cardiac auscultation teaching. Littmann University offers our learners higher quality audio, a more robust library of sounds and an interactive learning environment. Furthermore, we now have the ability to host a teaching session anytime we want, rather than having to fit our schedule into time slots when resources are available.

Inger Olson, MD

*Clinical Associate Professor
Pediatric Cardiology - Stanford*

Prior to using Littmann University, user Dr. Inger Olson, Clinical Associate Professor at Stanford's Pediatric Cardiology department, utilized live patients in the clinic to expose her students to a variety of patient heart sounds. This form of teaching was complemented by using manikins in small group sessions. However, Dr. Olson was in search of a more modern and reliable teaching tool.

“We were introduced to eMurmur through a new faculty member. We initially started using the Littmann University app in our academic half-day teaching with our pediatric residents. They really enjoyed the wide variety of sounds and were very enthusiastic knowing that what they were hearing were authentic real-life patients. The ability to interact with the students through the app creates a bedside-like teaching experience for them while providing immediate feedback to me, the instructor.”

Seeing the early success of Littmann University in the resident program, the opportunity arose for it to be incorporated into the cardiac auscultation workshop that Dr. Olson led during Stanford's annual Pediatric Cardiology bootcamp.

“Our use of Littmann University continues to expand. After utilizing it in a successful fashion at the 2019 bootcamp, we are examining the use of the platform as part of our cardiology fellowship curriculum. We currently do not have anything like this.”