



Computer-Assisted Learning for Clinical Gross Anatomy

University of Saskatchewan

Objectives for Innovation

Multimedia CD-ROM or web-based instruction

Intended Audience

Students in medicine, dentistry, physical therapy and nursing

Results Achieved

Interactive multimedia CD-ROM and web-based resources for instruction in gross anatomy

Interactive and dynamic images of anatomy

Flexible access for students at the University of Saskatchewan and for health professionals across Saskatchewan

Implementation

September 1998

Sample Web Site

<http://gracilis.usask.ca>

Additional Benefits

Head and Neck module subsection recognized in local and national dental research awards, and publication in a British journal on computer-assisted learning

Entire program will be commercially available in the next year to two years

Dynamic and interactive two-dimensional images, three-dimensional models and animations highly praised as a resource for students in understanding gross anatomy

University of Saskatchewan Computer-Assisted Learning Environment (U-SCALE) provides multimedia CD-ROM and web-based materials to support and enhance the lecture and laboratory (dissection) components of medical gross anatomy courses. It also replaces a portion of traditional lectures with clinical anatomical problem-solving sessions.

This program covers three regions of the body: the head, neck and thorax (chest). The materials provide an opportunity for students to explore relevant gross anatomy, manipulate two-dimensional images and three-dimensional models of these body parts, explore related clinical problems and evaluate their own learning. Students are also able to practice clinical procedures through animation and development of clinical cases.

U-SCALE helps students to visualize three-dimensional relationships of body parts. It also provides clinical problems and animations of clinical procedures. The clinical problem-solving approach, in turn, applies the concepts of gross anatomy. Thus, U-SCALE enhances student performance in gross anatomy courses, and enables students to learn at a pace suited to their ability and environment.

U-SCALE also supports upgrading for health professionals in rural and northern communities.

Contact

Dr. Geoffrey Guttman, College of Medicine

Phone: (306) 966-4079

Fax: (306) 966-4298

E-mail: geoffrey.guttman@usask.ca