Medical Students Who Aim Higher: Shifting from the Old Instructor Led Paradigm to a New Peer-Led Approach in Collaborative Learning

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## The P.A.S.S (Peer Assisted Study Sessions) Program is Born



www.crushable.com



#### Pilot Program:

- \* Gain better understanding
- \* Learning different ways to think
- \* Complete practice problems with others
- \* Talk through the material
- \* Increase retention
- \* Maintain or bring up exam grades

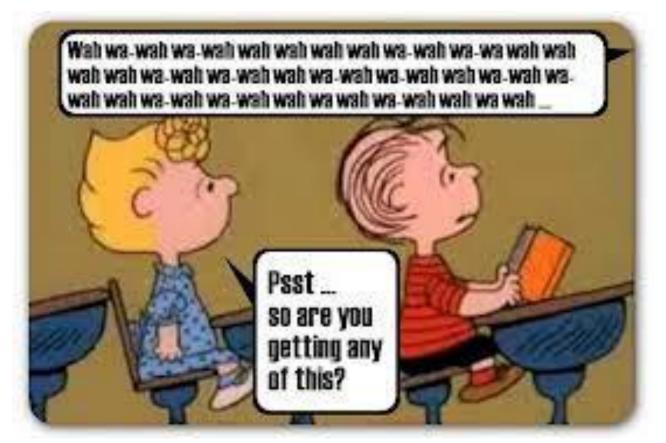
#### Fall 2014 (new desired outcomes):

- Structured review time
- Effective study strategies
- Gain confidence
- Opportunity to teach material to another
- Social interaction

- \* Reduce academic performance anxiety.
- \* Promote peer-to-peer academic support.
- \* Increase student access to academic support services.
- \* Prepare M1 P.A.S.S. Facilitators to serve as Peer-Tutors in M2 year.

## Why is Peer Assisted Learning Important?

- Students have a unique perspective on course content
- We know what works and what doesn't
- Removes power imbalance and facilitates discussion
- Prepares us for a career as lifelong learners



www.imgarcade.com

## A Road Map to Success

- Pre-Session Assignment
- Peer to Peer Discussion
- Facilitator Driven Explanations
- Questions posted to Blackboard for Review



http://www.dreamstime.com/



## The Brody School of Medicine

• 100% pass rate

- 235 Average Score (above national average)
  - Number 1 score in NC
- Bring up our anatomy and physiology scores

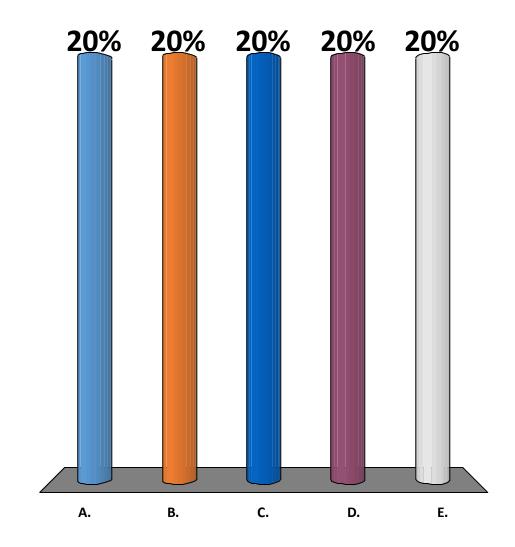
A 48 year old man complains of 4 weeks of profuse diarrhea. In the last week, he has developed lethargy and muscle weakness. On physical examination, his mucous membranes appear dry, his neck veins are flat and he has reduced skin turgor. Laboratory test show:

- Sodium: 183 mEq/L
- Potassium: 2.1 mEq/L
- Chloride: 87 mEq/L
- Carbon dioxide: 15 mEq/dL
- Blood Urea Nitrogen: 31 mg/dL
- Creatinine: 1.0 mg/dL

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- A. Decreases gastric acid secretion
- B. Decreases insulin release
- C. Increases gastric acid secretion
- D. Increases insulin release
- ✓ E. Relaxes intestinal smooth muscle



#### Page 353 First AID

Vasoactive intestinal polypeptide (VIP) Parasympathetic ganglia in sphincters, gallbladder, small intestine

intestinal water and electrolyte secretion
relaxation of intestinal smooth muscle and sphincters  t by distention and vagal stimulation
 ↓ by adrenergic input VIPoma—non-α, non-β islet cell pancreatic tumor that secretes VIP. Copious Watery Diarrhea, Hypokalemia, and Achlorhydria (WDHA syndrome).

## Timing is everything



AIM HIGHER		
5:30 - 6:30 pm		
Sunday	Weekday	
Laupus	Brody	
15-Feb	11-Feb	Meeting 1
22-Feb	19-Feb	Meeting 2
1-Mar	4-Mar	Meeting 3
29-Mar	1-Apr	Meeting 4
**April 7**	8-Apr	Meeting 5
12-Apr	15-Apr	Meeting 6
19-Apr	22-Apr	Meeting 7

http://londonist.com/

#### **Aim Higher Pacing Guide**

- Meeting 1 First Aid Section III High Yield Organ Systems Cardio Vascular, Respiratory and Reproductive 108 First Aid Pages
- Meeting 2 First Aid Section III High Yield Organ Systems Renal, GI and Endocrine 102 First Aid Pages
- Meeting 3 First Aid Section III High Yield Organ Systems Neuro, Musculoskeletal & Connective Tissue 88 First Aid Pages
- CBS Exam March 27
- Meeting 4 Anatomy Syllabus Upper Extremity, Head & Neck, & corresponding Embryo (Special Attention-Clinical Correlations) Brachial Plexus
- Meeting 5Anatomy Syllabus Abdomen, Thorax, Pelvis, Lower Extremity, & corresponding Embryo (Special Attention to Clinical Correlations)Lumbosacral Plexus
- Meeting 6 First Aid Section II Biochemistry 56 First Aid Pages
- Meeting 7 First Aid Section II Pathology, Section III Hematology and Oncology 54 First Aid Pages

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# "The road to success is always under construction" –Lily Tomlin

Covered 408 pages of First Aid from February 11-April 22

#### **Early Identified Revisions**

- Better Pacing/Integration with course content is needed
- Expand to Fall Semester
- More Effective Utilization of PASS Facilitators

#### **Student Comments**

- ✤I've really enjoyed the Aim Higher sessions so far!
- I do like the time limits being used for the questions they help simulate Step and keep us on track throughout the session
- It seems like we are spending a good deal of time at the beginning going over the pre-session assignment (which is helpful!), but then we are extremely rushed at the end of the session

### Outcomes...



# Questions?

## Acknowledgements

- Nikki Etxegoien (M2)
- Dioval Remonde (M2)
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- Mrs. Kate Ashton (OSDAC)
- Mrs. Gina Woolard (IT)
- Dr. Philip Boyer (Pathology)