

Performance in examinations and use of tape/text learning material

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The use of self-learning material in medical teaching is becoming increasingly popular. In Dundee, we have developed tape/text self-learning units for teaching the pharmacology of the peripheral nervous (5 x 1 h sessions) and central nervous (6 x 1 h sessions) systems. Although these learning units have proved popular with four successive years of students, we had no knowledge of the relationship between the use of the tape/text learning material and individual performance in examinations.

During the 1973-1974 academic year, third year medical students had access to peripheral nervous system (PNS) and central nervous system (CNS) learning units over two successive terms.

Re-call of the learned material was tested at the end of the respective terms by short answer question (PNS) and multiple choice question (CNS) type examinations, which also contained at least as many questions relating to other topics in Pharmacology.

There was no significant correlation in either examination between the performance in answering the criterion questions and the number(s) of tape sessions studied. However, there were some significant differences between the PNS and CNS criterion marks and the overall mark when this was calculated for groups of students according to the number of tape/text units used. In general, those students who used the self-learning units performed better in the criterion questions.

These findings will be presented in full in this demonstration.

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Use of television in pharmacology teaching

B. COX

University of Manchester

Use of tape-slide in pharmacology teaching

J.W. THOMPSON

University of Newcastle upon Tyne

Use of films in pharmacology teaching

J.M. FOY & G.D.H. LEACH

University of Bradford

An introduction to the use of multiple choice question examinations in pharmacology

**J.R.S. HOULT, R. TOWART &
C.W.M. WILSON**

King's College, London and Department of Pharmacology, Dublin

Fully automated multiple choice question marking

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