GW Himmelfarb Health Sciences librarians collaborated with medical faculty and staff as part of a team revising the Problem Oriented Case-Based Learning (PCL) cases for 1st and 2nd year medical students.

The collaboration resulted in streamlining the PCL cases, introducing standardized patients and instructional videos incorporating innovative teaching techniques and creating effective simulated patient case scenarios.

As the PCL cases evolved, a core team developed an IRB approved research study based on a 2nd year PCL Case on sexual reproduction and abortion. The experience provided opportunities for qualitative and quantitative research as well as subsequent publishing.

### Background

**HISTORY:** For the past 13 years, GW Himmelfarb Health Sciences Librarians have been embedded in the 1st year PCL course. Faculty librarians, along with a medical tutor teach in small groups comprised of 10-12 students.

**LIBRARIIANS’ PCL ROLE:** Embedded librarians are responsible for delivering medical informatics, and instruction on how to locate EBM resources. Due to staffing constraints, librarians do not teach PCL 2nd year courses.

**NEW OPPORTUNITIES:** PCL Director requested help in revising PCL Cases. The experience provided librarians an opportunity to expand their role and become an integral part of the team revising the Problem Oriented Case-Based Learning (PCL) cases.

**PCL 1st Year**
- Medical Tutors/Librarian Faculty
- 7 PCL Cases
- Each case 3 sessions

**PCL 2nd Year**
- Medical Tutors Only
- 10 PCL Cases
- Each case 2 sessions

### Methods & Results

**Team: Key Successes**
- Formatted Cases
- Added standardized patient & instructional videos
- Moved toward paperless cases.
- Created Interactive cases, embedded videos and links
- IRB RESEARCH STUDY: The team collaborated in conducting an IRB-approved research study evaluating the case effectiveness and students’ learning outcomes in the PCL curriculum case on abortion and sexual reproduction.

**SAMPLE SURVEY QUESTION:** Of one of the objectives of the Julia Nelson Case was to help you discuss reproductive health and abortion. Please rate how helpful this case was in the following areas. Also rate the appropriateness of the topic:

**Figure 1:** Survey Results

**Figure 2:** Survey Results

**Figure 3:** Survey Results

**Figure 4:** Survey Results

### Conclusion

**Working within a multi-disciplinary collaborative team on curriculum development allows for librarians to move beyond the traditional role of instruction. The embedded role highlights the additional contributions librarians can make to the team in the areas of technology and research.**