

# TOP 10 TIPS TO MASTER PIBL FACILITATION

## 01

### GET FAMILIARIZED WITH THE PROCESS.

**Know the PIBL Steps.** Refer to the PIBL Facilitator SOP guide and use it to keep your group focused.

## 02

### PREPARE FOR YOUR PIBL SESSION.

Prepare for the session by **reading** through the facilitator guide, **thinking about the flow** of the case, and **identifying areas that may need your facilitation**. Think about what kinds of prompts might be helpful to engage, challenge, or energize the group.

## 03

### UNDERSTAND THE ROLE OF PIBL FACILITATOR.

**Do not rush to ask questions.** Allow the group to struggle. One of the students in your group will soon say what you want to say.

## 04

### ENCOURAGE LEARNING.

**Use open-ended questions. Use prompts that guide** students to "assess, evaluate, compare, weigh evidence, make priorities, interpret, seek information, make decisions, plan their approach and use resources."

## 05

### FACILITATE PROCESS – NOT CONTENT.

**Do NOT "tell"**. Avoid providing clinical teaching points, anecdotes, or other information.

## 06

### ENCOURAGE LATERAL THINKING.

Ask how one part of the case **relates to another**, or how **different parts of the students' discussion relate** to one another or the case.

## 07

### ATTEND TO GROUP ENGAGEMENT.

**Direct attention to a quiet member** by asking them about what they think, or look to other group members if someone is talking a lot. Consider repeating and asking the group any question that is directed to you.

## 08

### DEVELOP FEEDBACK SKILLS FOR YOURSELF AND THE STUDENTS.

Use the **debrief** on both day one and two to honestly **give yourself and your group feedback**. For example, you can use this time to encourage the development of hypotheses, discussion of quality of learning issues, group participation, etc.

## 09

### BECOME AN EXPERT ON PBL.

Regularly **update your knowledge about recent developments in problem-based learning (PBL)** and medical and health education (e.g. attend conferences on medical education, become a member of a medical/health professional society, read recent publications on PBL, facilitation, small group learning and education).

## 10

### LEVERAGE YOUR COMMUNITY.

We have built our PIBL structure to include **peer observation and feedback**. When you have an observer, ask to debrief **what worked well** in your session and identify areas that you would like to work on as a facilitator.

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT [MDFACULTYDEV@TCU.EDU](mailto:MDFACULTYDEV@TCU.EDU)**

ADAPTED FROM: DR. SAMY A. AZER (2005) CHALLENGES FACING PBL TUTORS: 12 TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL GROUP FACILITATION, MEDICAL TEACHER, 27:3, 676-681, DOI: 10.1080/01421590500313001