

Implementing a Pre Assessment and Post Evaluation System for Surgeon Education Worldwide

Miriam Uhlmann, PhD, Manager, Faculty Development, AO Foundation, AO Education Institute, Switzerland

Urs Rüetschi, Director, AO Foundation, AO Education Institute, Switzerland

Alain Rickli, Project Manager, AO Foundation, AO Education Institute, Switzerland

Mike Cunningham, Curriculum Development, AO Foundation, AO Education Institute, Switzerland

Learners will hear about the planning, implementation, and use of a new standardized evaluation and assessment for the collection of data to prepare for courses, to provide feedback after the event, and to help international curriculum committees to identify trends and areas for improvement. Participants will receive a mock precourse report and be asked to analyze the data and recommend actions. They will also receive a postcourse report for analysis in groups.

Background: The AO Foundation delivers education in 6 surgical subspecialties in 5 geographical regions with an annual average of 40,000 participants in 74 countries. Information for planning and evaluation is a key factor for our high-quality education.

Summary of work: Over a 3-year period, a new common online system for gathering and analyzing pre and post event information was defined by our volunteer faculty leaders and implemented by the AO Education Institute and clinical divisions.

Results: The Evaluation and Assessment system has now been applied in more than 300 events in all regions using English and translated versions. Hundreds of event chairpersons have been trained to analyze and apply motivation to learn, gap scores, educational impact, commitment to change, and other information. Data are also being analyzed by our international planning committees to identify trends and areas for further development and focus.

Conclusion: Structured, consistent data collection and reporting increases the value of information and help busy faculty to adjust individual events to meet the needs of the specific participants and to plan future improvements.