

Social Media Usage and the RadsDO Experience: How Twitter Provides Enhanced Resource and Networking Accessibility via Subspecialized Interest Groups

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Introduction

The use of various social media platforms has gained greater traction over the past few years among healthcare subspecialties.

These platforms provide access to important real-time updates from application websites and conferences.

Individuals are able to gain greater access to advice from seasoned members of various subspecialties

There is greater opportunity for students to connect with members of the greater medical community.

RadsDO Experience

RadsDO is a subspecialty interest groups founded on Twitter. This group provides a forum for osteopathic medical students to gain access to networking and resources outside of their geographic location.

RadsDO provides a platform for medical students to gain exposure to opportunities within the closely-knit subspecialties in radiology.

This group utilized the accessibility of attending physicians and specialists on Twitter to help osteopathic medical students network, obtain research opportunities, and gain a greater understanding of the unique subspecialties within the field of radiology earlier in their medical education.

RadsDO Outcomes

Events included webinar discussions with residents from various programs across the country, mock interviews for fourth year students, and options for connections to research and mentorship.

Members of this group also worked to connect students with attending physicians for rotation opportunities, mentorship, and research.

Future Directions

Long-term projects include developing an online curriculum for osteopathic medical students to gain a foundation radiology and an understanding of professional social media usage, opportunities for networking, tips for audition rotations, and a source for various organizations, travel stipends, etc.

Discussion and Conclusions

The enhanced usage of social media provides medical students and young professionals an opportunity to gain additional resources and mentorship beyond their geographic location and hospital system.

This organization has successfully implemented various opportunities for medical students to gain exposure to radiology and access to networking early in their osteopathic medical education.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Dr. McCloskey and Dr. Saenz for your help with this project, for your ongoing mentorship on our journey through our medical education, and for sharing your passion for the field of radiology with all of us.



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