

***Corresponding author:**

Dr. Md. Tanveer Raza,
Faculty of Medicine,
University of Tabuk,
Tabuk, KSA.
Tel: +966537251324
E-mail: traza@ut.edu.sa

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SMJS-MET PODCAST: ADVANTAGES OF A JOURNAL AFFILIATED PODCAST FOR UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL STUDENTS

Md. Tanveer Raza¹

¹Assistant Professor of Ear, Nose and Throat, Department of Surgery, University of Tabuk and Editor-in-Chief of Saudi Medical Journal for Students

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A Podcast is an episodic digital audio recording of spoken words that are downloaded through web syndication or streamed online [1]. They can facilitate knowledge-transfer and develop communication with students, educators, researchers, policymakers and the public. The practice of using Podcasts in undergraduate medical education to develop educational content is on the rise. This form of digital communication is used to promote research dissemination and self-directed learning. Current generation of undergraduate students who have grown up in the digital age and have been exposed to the Internet environment since childhood and are resorting increasingly to social media as a source of knowledge due to familiarity. For academic web searches undergraduate students tend to favor convenience, accessibility, and availability over credibility and usefulness, are important factors. Most of these sources

blogs, microblogs (e.g., Twitter), networking websites (e.g., Facebook), and podcasts lack formal affiliation with an institution raising questions about quality and reliability [2]. Ergo, for academic search tasks, undergraduate medical students require guidance in choosing better information sources.

The Saudi Medical Journal for Students (SMJS), a peer-reviewed student medical journal, is the official journal of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Tabuk. In partnership with MedEdu Tabuk, SMJS has taken the initiative to develop a series of educational content for self-directed learning to be used by undergraduate medical students. The collaboration of the aptly named SMJS-MET Podcast with the Faculty of Medicine and the Deanship of Student Affairs of University of Tabuk will ensure credibility and relevance of content plus provide accessibility for undergraduate medical students.

Reference

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