

Instructions on Submitting Case Material to the SAEM-AAMC MedEdPORTAL  
Simulation Collection  
*And*  
Background on MedEdPORTAL

One way to foster experimentation and research in medical simulation is by providing a venue for faculty to share their experience in the field, and to receive academic credit for their contributions. To this end, SAEM and the AAMC are collaborating to peer-review and publish a collection of simulator-based case materials on-line. This effort will link the “case bank” developed by the Simulation Interest Group over the past few years (<http://www.emedu.org/sim>, guided and hosted by John Vozenilek at Evanston Northwestern Healthcare/Northwestern University) with the AAMC's new publication venue for educational material, MedEdPORTAL ([www.aamc.org/mededportal](http://www.aamc.org/mededportal); see accompanying article by the MedEdPORTAL editor). For this special collection, SAEM will provide faculty experts to serve as MedEdPORTAL Associate Editors, and Simulation Task Force members will comprise the peer-review panel. Material can be submitted purely for dissemination and commentary (preliminary posting), or for formal peer review. Materials will be dually posted on the SAEM website and on AAMC's site, where they will be indexed and published as material in an electronic journal. Here's the process:

1. If you are interested in submitting a simulator case for review, please go to: <http://www.emedu.org/SimGroup/library.asp>
2. Here you will upload the case description and any supporting materials
3. After successful submission to the SAEM site, you will be e-mailed a URL with a link to your work. You will then be prompted to register as an author with the AAMC's MedEdPORTAL at [www.aamc.org/mededportal](http://www.aamc.org/mededportal) (go to “publish resources” to create a password).
4. Once inside the AAMC/MedEdPORTAL submission website, you will use the SAEM URL to identify your submission for the AAMC process.
5. An SAEM-based editor for the AAMC collection will then be assigned to review your work, and peer-review will proceed just like a manuscript—with dissemination to at least two SAEM Simulator Task Force members/experts for review.
6. The process will then proceed with discussion and revision of the material—as with any journal submission—culminating either in a preliminary posting (as appropriate), or formal acceptance for peer-reviewed designation and publication on the AAMC/MedEdPORTAL website.

This is an important collaborative experiment between SAEM and the AAMC and may lead to further formal collaboration in areas beyond medical simulation. The goal is to promote and disseminate educational scholarship and to provide peer review and recognition of educational material. Please contact Jim Gordon ([jgordon3@partners.org](mailto:jgordon3@partners.org)) or John Vozenilek ([vozonline@ameritech.net](mailto:vozonline@ameritech.net)) with any questions.

# AAMC MedEdPORTAL

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The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) has a longstanding interest in educational technologies and mechanisms that facilitate the exchange of teaching resources, particularly materials that are costly to develop. MedEdPORTAL ([www.aamc.org/mededportal](http://www.aamc.org/mededportal)) is a new publishing venue through which faculty can publish and share such educational works. It is the only online inventory that focuses exclusively on the continuum of medical education and addresses the unique needs of medical educators. MedEdPORTAL was designed to promote collaboration and educational scholarship by facilitating the open exchange of peer-reviewed teaching resources such as tutorials, virtual patients, cases (PBL, SP, OSCE), lab manuals, assessment instruments, faculty development materials, etc. MedEdPORTAL contains information about published resources and indicates how these materials may be accessed or obtained by interested faculty

With MedEdPORTAL, users can quickly locate information about high-quality, peer-reviewed teaching material in both the basic and clinical sciences. Teaching resources range from an audio program featuring lung-sounds that is designed to enhance student auscultation skills, to a series of videos that help residency program directors identify the first signs of fatigue in residents, to an interactive, multimedia surgical simulation showing an integrated, evidence-based framework for approaching common surgical problems. And because copyright issues are addressed during the submission process (authors retain their original copyrights and indicate how others may use them), users can download these resources worry-free of legal infringements.

From its conception, MedEdPORTAL was designed to serve as a prestigious publishing venue through which faculty may disseminate their educational works. Structured like a

traditional print journal, MedEdPORTAL:

- Maintains an editor and an editorial board.
- Follows a peer review policy that mirrors practices employed by established biomedical print journals.
- Employs a rigorous peer review process based on accepted standards of scholarship using invited expert reviewers to conduct all reviews.

An educational resource successfully peer-reviewed and published through MedEdPORTAL is comparable to a peer-reviewed research paper published through a reputable print-based journal and should be considered compelling scholarly contributions suitable for use to support promotion and tenure decisions.

MedEdPORTAL desires to work with specialty societies (and established multimedia collections) to help them disseminate peer-reviewed educational materials. Partnerships such as these will promote the submission of discipline-specific materials and encourage the participation of specialist reviewers. All MedEdPORTAL content originating from a specialty organization or collection will be clearly branded on MedEdPORTAL using a logo provided by the partner organization. MedEdPORTAL works with such groups to identify Associate Editors that will facilitate MedEdPORTAL submissions, recruit reviewers, and help manage the peer review process.

MedEdPORTAL will be incrementally refined and enhanced during the spring of 2006. As MedEdPORTAL enters its second year, we hope that it will become a "one-stop shop" for locating information about high-quality, peer-reviewed educational resources. And we hope that educators will use it not only to share their own resources, but also to collaborate with others in their respective fields to continue to improve the quality of the educational resources available to our students.