What is Case Based Instruction?

Case Based Instruction (CBI) is a teaching modality using a clinical case-based scenario. CBI provides the opportunity for students to learn new material while also applying previously learned material. CBI is extremely student centric. CBI should develop and hone critical thinking skills, encourage discovery and identify gaps in student knowledge. The College of Medicine-Phoenix curriculum is composed with one third being CBI.

What are the roles of a CBI Facilitator?

CBI facilitators are extremely unique in that they have an opportunity to interact with students in a small group learning environment. Facilitators have the ability to provide students with insight and perspectives that could only be accomplished by an experienced Clinician or Basic Scientist. In addition to these specific skills, the CBI facilitator also carries the following roles:

**Facilitator of Learning**
- Encourages critical thinking by eliciting students’ reasoning. Poses questions and challenges information.
- Is an active member of the group.
- Participates and contributes WITHOUT dominating the group.
- “Asks” rather than “tells.”
- Serves as a resource person. Helps “stuck” groups move past roadblocks by appropriately clarifying issues or asking guiding questions.
- Promotes application and integration of information to the case problem(s).
- Promotes the use of resources and encourages evaluation of resources.
- Is comfortable with and willing to explore areas outside of their own expertise.

**Facilitator of Group Dynamics**
- Facilitates/maintains group “ground rules.”
- Helps group develop agenda.
- Guides/Directs/Intervenes. Keeps the group on track and on task.
- Ensures equitable participation among group members.
- Facilitates and supports effective interpersonal relationships among group members.
- Is comfortable with silence.

**Evaluator**
- Makes his/her expectations clear.
- Is willing to provide essential, open and honest feedback.
- Facilitates regular group assessment.
- Documents student behaviors and progress at each session.

How do you become involved?

1. Contact the office of Academic Affairs to receive CBI facilitator Training
   - **Cinda J. Stone, M.Ed.**
     - Academic Coordinator, PreClinical Block
     - cjtstone@email.arizona.edu
     - 602.827.2096
   - **Cynthia Standley, PhD**
     - Professor, Basic Medical Sciences
     - cstand@email.arizona.edu
     - (602) 827-2148

2. Complete shadowing of at least one case from an experienced facilitator
3. Receive your case assignments on an as-needed basis.