“Did you checked on Mrs. Yamamoto’s lab results?” Did you order the CT scan? CODE BLUE, CODE BLUE!

For all of us working in wards of Internal Medicine have probably experienced the unpredictability of acute patient care. Learning and teaching in this busy environment can be quite challenging. If you think it is hard to balance work and education, you are not alone!

Despite our graduation pledge of sharing our knowledge with our peers, we receive little to no education on “how to educate.” Consider that teachers spend four plus years learning how to do this!! However, we physicians are left to teach each other guided only by our intuition.

In this conference, my goal is to convince you that you can be a great clinical educator. It requires your interest and some effort but I am here to give you some tips and resources to get you started in this quest. The tips in this lecture are mostly based on the wonderful book by Dr. Jeff Wiese “Teaching in the Hospital” which is part of the ACP Teaching Series.

We will share how important it is to change your mindset – from “teacher” to “coach”, to establish the rules of the rotation at the beginning and share expectations – both yours and from your learners. We will talk about preparing ahead of time by developing your own “teaching scripts” or borrowing from others. Also, you will recognize that there is much more to learn than just medical knowledge, learning processes such as “how to prioritize”, time management, how to study and clinical reasoning are essential to grow efficient, self-learners. In addition, giving feedback and helping those student struggling are also part of roles as clinical educators and we can learn how to do this effectively.

This lecture is aimed not only for those teaching, it is also for those currently learning or preparing to learn in the wards. I will give you lots of resources to continue to improve your teaching skills, join me!