

## Summary Information Technology Skills Assessment

*Purpose:* Information technology (IT) skills were assessed by asking students to complete computer tasks and questionnaires.<sup>1</sup>

*Method:* Medical students attended an IT course that consisted of five one-hour lectures and five one-hour hands-on sessions.

<i>What was assessed?</i>	<i>How was it assessed?</i>
IT skills	Students were presented with an written scenario that required them to demonstrate 25 discrete skills required to complete the following tasks: a) access a network-based electronic medical record (EMR) b) access a network-based clinical decision support program and use the information provided to solve the clinical problem outlined in the scenario c) modify the EMR, based on information obtained, and print out the modified EMR
Changes in self-reported computer use and self-assessed computer and IT abilities	Data were obtained via questionnaires completed before and after the course. Questionnaires were completed by students who completed the course and students at a different school who did not complete the course.
Opinions about the course and about the relative importance of computer and IT abilities	Data were obtained via questionnaires completed by course participants at the end of the course.

### Reference

1. Chan M, Fox NJ, Clamp SE, de Dombal FT. An information technology course in the medical curriculum. *Med Educ* 1996;30:112-20.