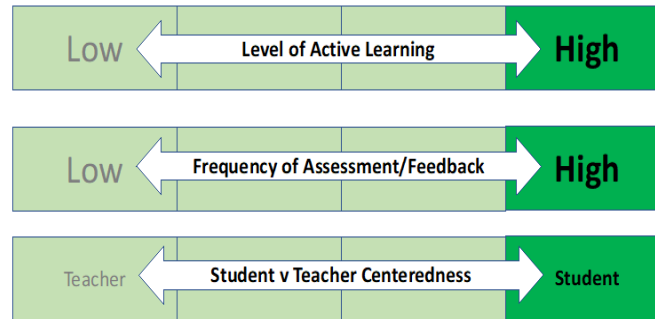


# PRINCIPLES OF PROBLEM-BASED LEARNING (PBL)



## PBL PEDAGOGY

- Allows students to acquire knowledge in a way in which they will use it.
- Benefits to students:
  - ✓ Comprehension
  - ✓ Retention
  - ✓ Knowledge organization
  - ✓ Learn how to learn
- Supported by adult learning theory – fosters motivation to learn as students acquire knowledge on “need to know” basis and within context of authentic work.
- Aspires to develop student’s reasoning skills using hypothetico-deductive reasoning, forward thinking, and pattern recognition. <sup>2,3</sup>



Can this meet the criteria for Self-Directed Learning?

Yes No



## PBL TIPS FOR STUDENTS

- Students do all the work of learning which strengthens self-directed learning skills
- Increases confidence in ability to learn and adapt
- Faculty are guides and do not directly provide answers
- Trust that teachers will provide authentic cases that guide learning



## PBL USES & OUTCOMES

### Suggested Uses:

- Replace an entire traditional medical curriculum
- Replace one or more components of a curriculum

### Evidence-based Outcomes:

- Systematic reviews reporting on the effectiveness of PBL vs. traditional curriculum:
  - No clear benefits when comparing knowledge acquisition and application
  - Due to heterogeneity of PBL implementation
- Positively impacted physician competencies:
  - Self-directed learning (SDL)
  - Communication skills
  - Coping with uncertainty
  - Appreciation of legal and ethical aspects of care <sup>2,3</sup>

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