

# Online Radiology Mentorship

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## Introduction

X-ray interpretation is a core skill. Mastery takes many years with exposure to thousands of radiographs, alongside study and guidance from experienced mentors.

This novel programme allows participants to grow their skills at any time and any place. They each receive an online X-ray pack each month that they can respond to. They can test themselves or ask questions, all with anonymity.

The participants receive bespoke feedback from a Radiology Registrar to develop confidence and progress at any level of experience.

## Methods

A pack of 10 radiographs from local inpatients are compiled on an online survey page. All patient identifiable data is removed. A link is distributed to all members of the Acute Medical Rota via email, to access the pack anonymously.

The participants have two weeks to interpret the films and ask any questions. They can open their pack at work, at home or wherever else they like.

The responses are summarised for the Radiology team, who review the pack and responses. They publish their feedback, describing features that confirm the diagnosis and disprove alternative diagnoses. They include clarification for any queries, and the combined feedback is published.

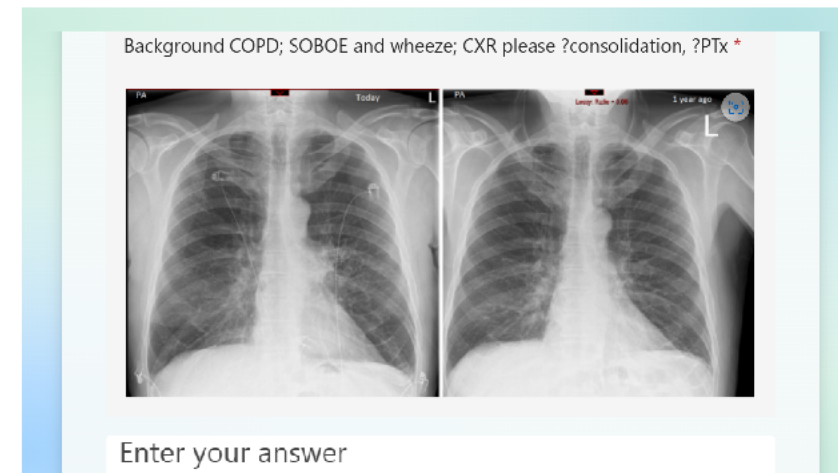
The feedback is shared with the participants, who offer suggestions for the next pack.

## Key Findings and Reflections

With each iteration, we speak to clinicians about their thoughts and how to help them engage.

Smaller packs are preferred. The first pack contained 30 X-rays, with multiple participants only partially completing the pack before disengaging.

Senior doctors often follow each pack and read the Radiology response, but are hesitant to submit their interpretations. They are concerned that providing incorrect answers might reflect poorly on them. Once anonymity was guaranteed, participation doubled.

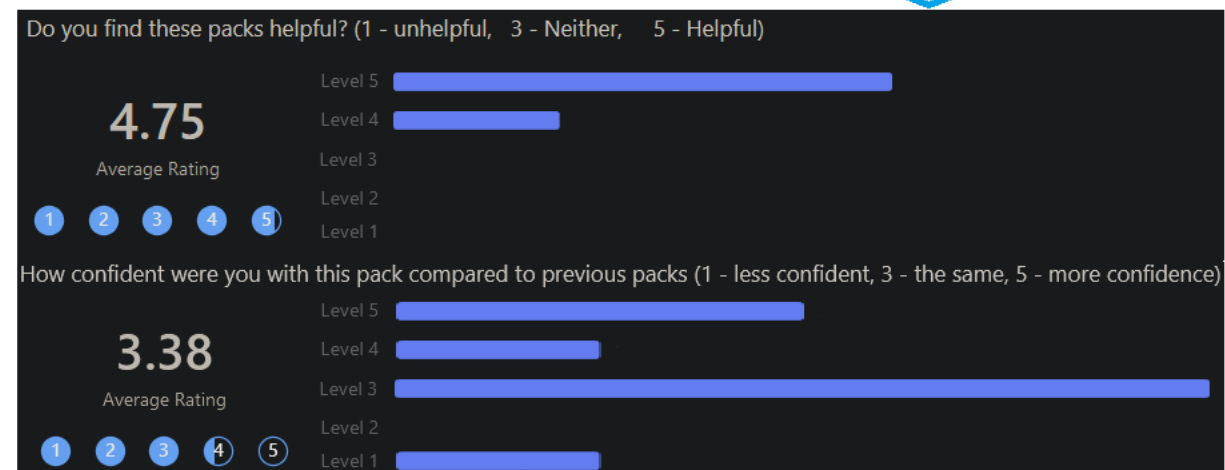


## Participant Feedback

It's a brilliant idea – it made me think about how I should put more information in requests  
– ACCS 1 Doctor

Amazing learning opportunity  
– Junior Clinical Fellow

This is a really cool project  
– ST7 Registrar



## Implications for Practice

The online aspect of teaching allows anyone to engage, from anywhere at any time. No-one is disadvantaged by rota or how busy their ward is. Teachers can work around their own schedule.

Without anonymity, participants can be hesitant to engage with familiar colleagues about their knowledge gaps.

The method is adaptable to a multitude of IT systems and even content, such as ECGs.

Teacher Response could be done in a video format for improved demonstrative impact.

## Contact

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