

Ian McColl's Abstracts

1. Abstract for talk on Blogs

Blogs are online discussion groups with a specific web address. They have evolved in the last few years into various fields and have become personal defacto websites that are used in a multitude of ways from personal diaries to advertising company websites. This talk will look at the construction and use of blogs in dermatology education, specifically at the Skin Cancer Society of Australia blogsite www.skincancerclinic.blogspot.com Over a period of three years this blog now has more than 800 cases discussed and over 2000 images. The changing philosophy of blended education combining online and face to face teaching will be illustrated.

2. Abstract for talk on Online Dermatology Education in Australia

This talk will look at the evolution of a series of educational websites in dermatology in Australia and discuss the successes and failures. Teledermatology should be successful in a country such as Australia with it's immense land mass , scattered rural population and shortage of rural dermatologists but it has been slow to progress. The websites discussed will include www.learn dermatology.com providing access to educational websites for medical students, general practitioners and doctors specializing in skin cancer management, and specialist discussion groups under the Yahoo umbrella. Other dermatology education sites such as www.globalskinatlas.com and www.dermoscopyatlas.com will be illustrated.

Educational philosophies are the basis for how we teach. The advent of Web2 capabilities has expanded our options. The concept of blended education will be discussed and it's place in future teaching in dermatology explored.