

“Tips and Tricks for Creating an Engaging Virtual Talk”

Maroun Matta, MD, MSc (Case Western Reserve University)

Darlene Nelson, MD, MHPE (Mayo Clinic)

Morgan Soffler, MD (Harvard University)

Key Principles of Adult Learning Theory

- Andragogy = the practice of teaching adult learners
- Transformational learning
- Kolb’s Experiential Learning theory
- Cognitive Load Theory

- What is the audience **experience**?
- How is this content **relevant** for the audience?
- What will **motivate** the audience?
- Is the **timing** right?
- Can I provide a space for **reflection**?
- Can I provide a “**concrete experience**?”

POWERPOINT TIPS:

- Don’t distract people!
- BEST: Narrate with images
- SECOND BEST: Read text aloud word for word
- Use familiar visual cues
- Direct attention → animation, dim, highlight, blow up

Strategies for Interactive Presentations

In person

- Think-pair-share
- Quick votes
- Body language/ eye contact
- Participation and conversation
- Handouts
- Evaluation or assessments

Virtual

- Breakout rooms
- Polling tools
- Grid view
- Chat and raise hands feature
- QR codes and links
- Google forms

Polling:

- ZOOM
<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/213756303-Polling-for-meetings>
- Poll Everywhere
<https://www.polleverywhere.com>
- slido
<https://www.sli.do>

ZOOM Breakout rooms:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206476313-Managing-Breakout-Rooms>

QR Code App:

<https://qrbot.net/locale/en/>

Presenting Research:

- Critical error 1: Failing to know your audience, the occasion, and the purpose of the presentation.
 - *Tip: Define the problem, establish its importance, establish credibility*
- Critical error 2: Boring your audience
 - *Tip: Use analogies and examples!*
- Critical error 3: Losing your audience
 - *Tip: Signal sharp turns - let your audience know where you are going!*
 - *Tip: Emphasize key points, summarize main ideas*