The media training exercise is a collaboration between the Community Medicine Residency Program at the University of Toronto (U of T) and the School of Journalism at Ryerson University (Ryerson).

OBJECTIVES
To enhance the media interview skills of future public health physicians, and raise public health knowledge for the journalism students.

METHODS
Each media training session includes three steps: planning, exercise and review.

PLANNING
• One month before the exercise, the coordinator at U of T collected the resident physicians’ areas of interest.
• The professor at Ryerson let the journalism student choose the resident physicians they would like to interview according to the residents’ expertise.
• The matched resident and journalism student list was e-mailed to both groups.
• One week before the exercise, the residents and journalist students conducted a telephone pre-interview.

EXERCISE
• On the day of the exercise, residents and journalism students conducted the interview in the professional studio at Ryerson, and then the journalism students edited the clips on site.
• It usually took one hour to complete 10 interviews.

REVIEW
• The group review session was conducted immediately after the exercise, with residents, journalism students, the journalism professor and residency program faculty members.
• The clips were played and evaluated, in a discussion led by the faculty members.

RESULTS
➢ The media training session has been conducted annually since 2002. There has been eight radio interviews and three TV exercises.
➢ The evaluation of the training sessions was very useful for both the resident physicians from U of T and the journalist students from Ryerson.

DISCUSSIONS
➢ The media training exercises provides media practice for the future public health physicians.
➢ The training session gives journalist students an opportunity to become familiar with public health issues, and practise interview skills with physicians.
➢ The media training session will be continued as a regular curriculum feature of the two universities.

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