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Building Interdisciplinary Learning Partnerships

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Building Interdisciplinary Learning Partnerships

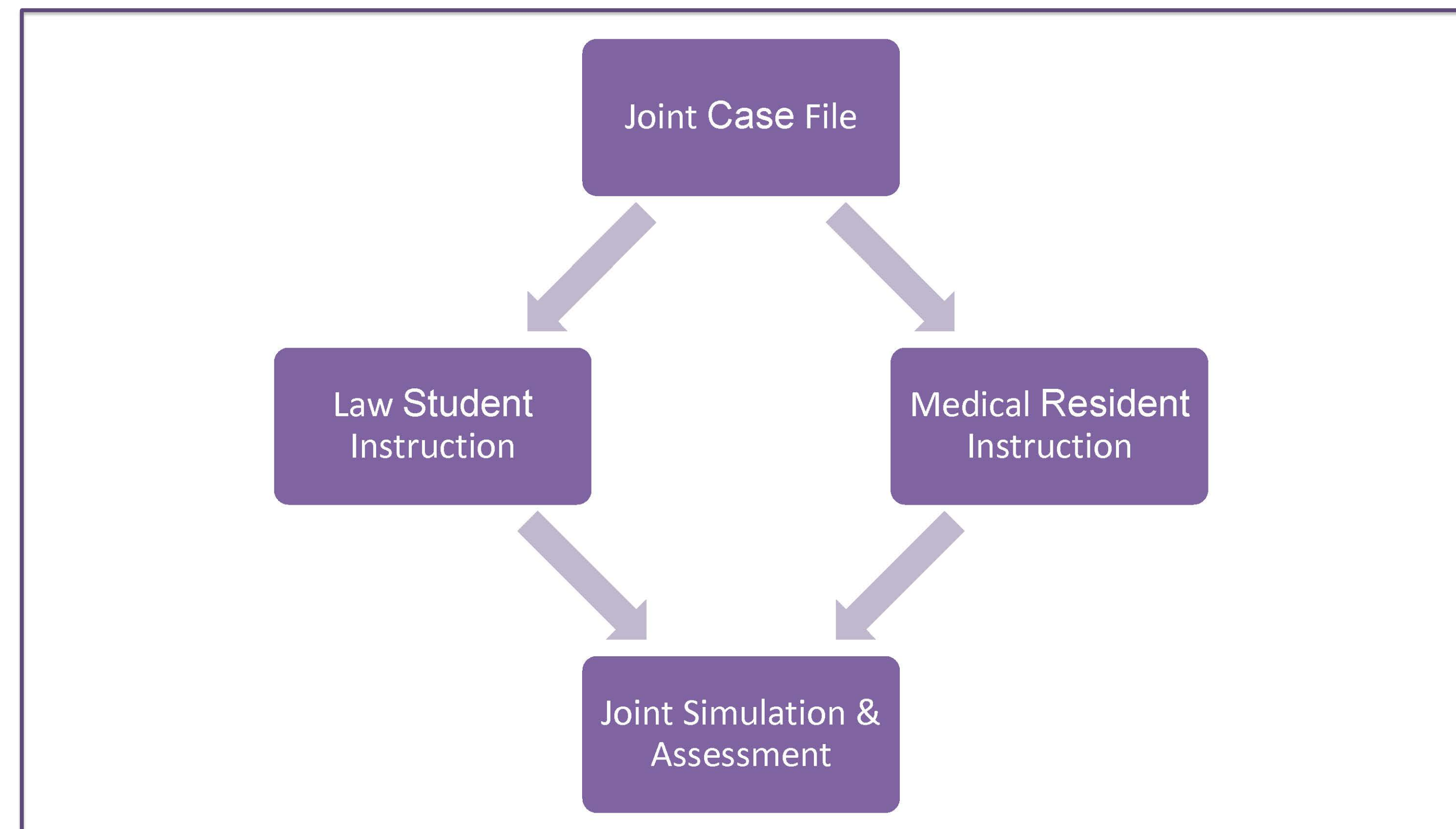
Background

- Capital University Law School & Grant Medical Center partnered to provide training on **medical malpractice** to law students and medical residents.
- The course utilized a **unique, interdisciplinary approach to skills training & professional development**.
- The course attempts to meet several needs:
 1. Increase **experiential learning opportunities** to develop professional skills and judgment;
 2. Provide **authentic, experiential learning** that is **cost-effective** and **accessible** to all law students, including non-traditional and part-time students; and
 3. Promote **interdisciplinary education**.



“This class was invaluable as it taught techniques and strategies that could directly be applied to real world situations. Through hands-on development and practice, this class provided me with the assurance that I understand the deposition process and will feel confident walking in to take or defend my first ‘real world, real client’ deposition.”
– Third year student at Capital University Law School

Process



“It was a great experience and a perfect way to improve my understanding of the justice system and the importance of practicing clear, appropriate and thorough medicine . . . the fact that both the law students and residents were still in training created an unspoken understanding of helping each other out and working towards a common goal.”

– Chief Resident in the Grant Family Medicine Residency

Results

- The project yielded several benefits:
- Produced an experience that **more closely simulated live-client experiences** than traditional simulation courses;
 - Yielded a **case file with richer medical and legal issues**;
 - Medical residents provided a **level of authenticity** in client behavior **not usually available in simulation courses**;
 - Simulated nature of the experience allowed it to be offered in a **format accessible to all students**; and
 - Interdisciplinary engagement fostered **strong opportunities for networking and relationship building** across disciplines.

Methods

- Physician/Lawyer team developed a **medical malpractice case file** for use throughout the exercises.
- Law students received discipline-specific instruction on **deposition strategies** and opportunity for **hands-on application** of the law surrounding **lay and expert depositions**.
- Medical residents received discipline-specific instruction on **risk management protocol** and **effective, proactive charting**.
- Law students & residents completed **joint simulation** in which law students **prepare the residents** for their depositions, then **take and defend** the depositions in a mock medical malpractice case.
- Students & residents received **contemporaneous feedback** from lawyers and physicians.

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