An encouragement of role-play \sim the utility of student-centered physician-patient role-play for practical pharmacotherapy education \sim

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The active learning of practical pharmacotherapy has been performed at 18 medical schools as a part of pharmacology education from 2010 to 2019. This active learning program is a new pharmacology education technique which enables the simulated experience of explaining the features of medical treatment from medical doctors to patients through student-centered physician-patient role-play. This is named Case & Communication based approach (C&C approach), since it is studied through communication between doctors and patients based on several typical cases presented beforehand. The educational effectiveness was evaluated by a questionnaire survey. The questionnaire topics were (a) understanding of medical treatment, (b) understanding patient's feelings, (c) improvement of awareness and motivation as a doctor, and (d) positive influence upon study attitude. Furthermore, impressions of the role-play, written as free description. The highly effectiveness of role-play in pharmacology education was observed regarding all four topics. In addition, many students realized the importance of physician-patient communication, understanding of patient's feeling, and accurate and extensive knowledge of pharmacotherapy in their free description. This role-play program in pharmacology education may be effective for better understanding of pharmacotherapy, patient's feeling, and improvement of students' awareness and motivation as a doctor.

In this symposium, we would like to show the detail of this program and possibility of contribution to medical education.