

## A SYNTHETIC TRIDIMENSIONAL PELVIC MODEL IS AN EFFECTIVE DIDACTIC TOOL FOR THE STUDY OF THE PELVIC FLOOR ANATOMY COMPARED TO CADAVERIC PELVIS

### Hypothesis / aims of study

Anatomy is considered an essential subject for Medicine students. Furthermore, the practice class using a comprehensive and manageable anatomic component is fundamental for a good teaching and learning process. The goals of this study were to evaluate (1) the synthetic anatomic pelvic model (SAPM) as a didactic tool comparing it to the traditional anatomic class using cadaveric pelvis (CP) and (2) the satisfaction of the students with both didactic methods

### **Study design, materials and methods**

64 medicine students, volunteers for this study, received a conventional theoretic anatomy class. Following this class, all students were randomized in 3 groups (G1, G2) where they attended anatomical classes with different didactic methods, respectively: traditional practice anatomy class (TC), anatomy class with SAPM (SC) and G3 denominated control group which had no practice class. A preliminary theoretic test was applied to all groups. The G1 underwent to a TC and G2 to a SC. A final theoretic test was applied to all groups G1, G2 and G3. Group1 and 2 underwent to the evaluation of their satisfaction about the anatomic component used for the practice class (CP or SAPM).

### **Results**

The mean age was 19.41 ( $\pm$  1.58) in G1, 19.31 ( $\pm$  3.43) in G2 and 19.42 ( $\pm$  3.35) in G3. Statistical analysis was done using a multi-variation ANOVA to compare the different methods and an independent *t*-Test to compare the satisfaction. The level of significance was determined as  $p \leq 0.05$ .

Non-significant differences were observed between groups in the preliminary assessment ( $p > 0.05$ ). Differently, in the assessment following the classes, students from G3 presented lower scores than students from G1 ( $p < 0.05$ ) and G2 ( $p < 0.05$ ). Difference between G1 and G2 was not found ( $p > 0.05$ ).

In addition, G2 had shown to be more satisfied with the method used for practice ( $p < 0.05$ ).

### **Interpretation of results**

CP and SAPM proved to be effective didactic tools in the pelvic floor anatomy practice class. In addition, G2 showed higher satisfaction in studying with a SAPM than G1 which used CP.

### Concluding message

The synthetic anatomic pelvic model (SAPM) as a didactic tool is effective comparing it to the traditional anatomic class using cadaveric pelvis (CP).

### References

1. Anatomy
2. Pelvic Floor
3. Pelvic Model

<b><i>Specify source of funding or grant</i></b>	none
<b><i>Is this a clinical trial?</i></b>	No
<b><i>What were the subjects in the study?</i></b>	HUMAN
<b><i>Was this study approved by an ethics committee?</i></b>	Yes
<b><i>Specify Name of Ethics Committee</i></b>	Ethics Committee of Biological Division UFPR
<b><i>Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?</i></b>	Yes
<b><i>Was informed consent obtained from the patients?</i></b>	Yes