

## Out-of-the-Box Abstract Format (250 word maximum)

**Title:** Modernizing Medical Education for the Global Audience

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**Abstract:**

The Covid-19 pandemic placed unimaginable strain on health care systems around the world as well as the training programs feeding them. Concerns regarding exposures, PPE shortages and the need for social distancing impacted residencies across all fields of medicine. Particularly hard hit were surgical fields like plastic surgery which rely heavily on elective operations for resident education. Recognizing these challenges, collaborators from two US-based institutions developed The Loupe Podcast to deliver quality plastic surgery content in a safe and easily accessible manner.

The cofounders recruited residents and medical students from programs across the country to create the diverse, core team behind The Loupe. The team devoted substantial effort to building a social media presence to promote the podcast and reach a broader audience. Buzzsprout was used to publish podcast episodes across Apple Podcasts, Spotify and Stitcher as well as track listener statistics and a YouTube channel was created to publish corresponding visual aids. Thus far, episode content has focused on review of high-yield topics for the plastic surgery in-service exam. Planned additional series include oral board review, patient education, mentorship and faculty talks.

In less than 3 months, The Loupe Podcast has published 27 episodes with a total of 6,681 downloads across 41 countries and 589 cities, spanning every continent except Antarctica. Videos on the YouTube channel have been viewed 1,699 times. These early data suggest the utility of such a model to reach a global audience and its application across surgical and medical specialties.

