

## Moayed Alawami

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Moayed Alawami is currently a first year house officer in Timaru. He graduated from University of Auckland and is interested in general medicine and would like to pursue a career as a physician.



**App Review: MyMedicalTutor**  
Available via: iTunes  
RRP: NZ\$6.49

In undergraduate medical training and thereafter in vocational training, practical clinical skills are as essential as theoretical knowledge. Candidates are required to sit

clinical exams in the form of short-cases, long-cases or Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCE). Although medical knowledge is assessed in these exams, the main focus is assessment of clinical skills such as physical examination and communication of findings. MyMedicalTutor app aims to improve presentation skills through built-in clinical cases. This app is available through iTunes and costs NZ\$6.49. It is compatible with apple devices running iOS 3.0 or later.

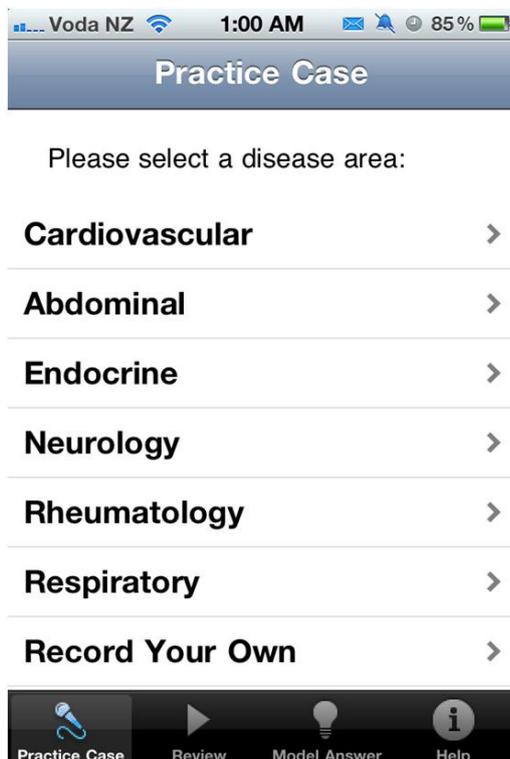


Figure 1 medical specialties included in the app.

This app contains 40 short clinical cases in a variety of medical specialties as shown in Figure 1. There are no surgical cases however. Users start by choosing a specialty and then a clinical condition to be presented. A snapshot of physical examination findings is displayed (Figure 2) and users present their findings orally which are recorded by the app. Then, users can playback their presentation and review a model answer regarding that case (Figure 3). The model answers are excellent and are presented in a systematic manner similar to the examination pattern, and finish off with a summary paragraph.

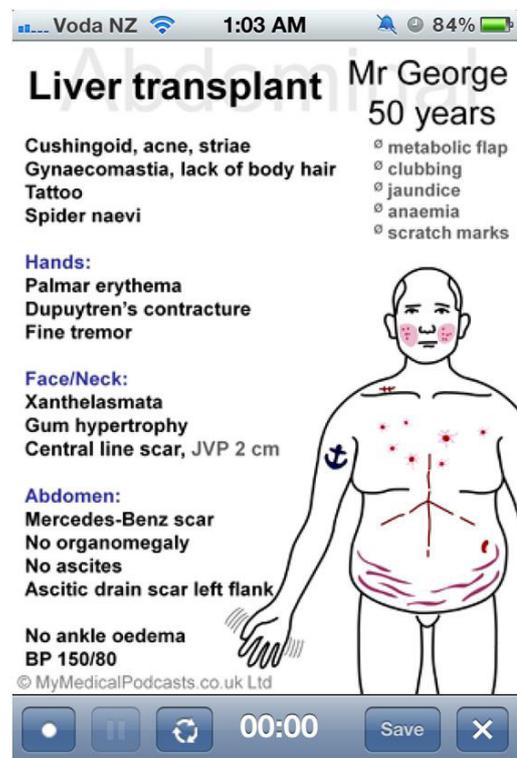


Figure 2 An example of a snapshot physical examination findings in a liver transplant patient.

Each case represents a common condition in that specialty, such as multiple sclerosis for neurology and rheumatoid arthritis for rheumatology. In addition, short notes pertinent to each condition are provided including aetiology, diagnosis, management, prognosis (Figure 4) and a link for further information. I believe the short notes provided are very detailed and they are certainly more than what would be expected in New Zealand clinical exams. Nonetheless, knowing more may impress examiners.

However, the app does have short-comings. It could be improved by adding more clinical cases in the endocrinology section, such as hypothyroidism and panhypopituitarism. In neurology, it would be good to add some cases addressing cranial nerves isolated neuropathies. The app has not updated its case list for more than a year despite being a paid app. Regular updates and addition of cases would be useful.

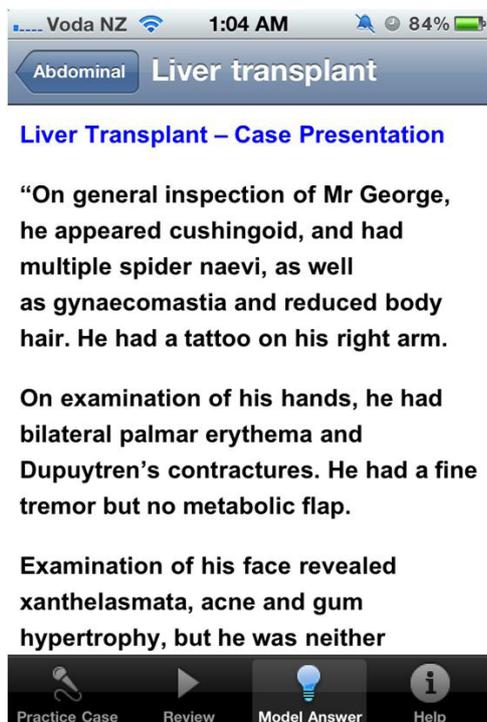


Figure 3 A model presentation of liver transplant case. Note that this screenshot does not show the whole model answer.

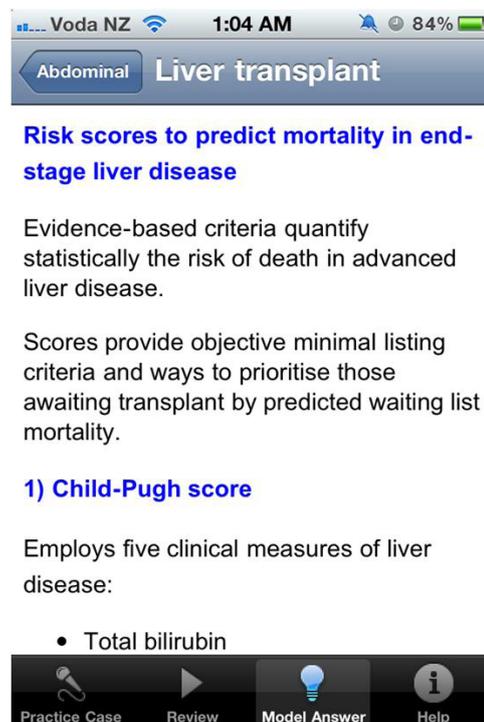


Figure 4 A screenshot of prognostic scores used in liver transplant.

I recommend this app to all medical students preparing for their short case clinical exams. I believe the variety of cases and depth of discussion makes the app suitable to 5th year medical students and trainee interns. House officers with interests in general medicine may find it a good visual aid for revision. However, medical registrars will be unlikely to benefit from it.

