

USE OF "DRILL" UTILITY OF INFORMATION SYSTEM OF MASARYK UNIVERSITY FOR NON-LANGUAGE MEDICAL STUDENT EDUCATION

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D2.5 PEDAGOGY AND METHODOLOGY FOR ELECTRONIC SUPPORT OF EDUCATION

The "Drill" utility in the Information System of Masaryk University (IS MU) is based on recent findings from psychology of learning - so called "spaced repetition" system. For more quality remembering the terms it is better to repeat the terms less frequently during a longer time period, rather than intensive short-termed memorizing. The "Drill" utility is an automated system that offers to its users cards with "questions" (e. g. terms in one language); user try to find an "answer" (e. g. term in the second language). The user self-evaluates his/her own knowledge of the answer. Later the system offers more frequently cards labelled by the user as trouble-making and less frequently the cards that do not make problems. The spaced repetition systems, including the "Drill" in IS MU, are mostly used for language education. Non-language use of this system is rare, although possible. At the Institute for Microbiology of Medical Faculty, Masaryk University, we decided to enable our students to use this system for memorizing some specific terms of our branch. In the first phase, we implemented "Drill" for scientific names of medically important parasites, this year we offered another "Drill textbook" to our students - some specific diseases and the typical pathogens causing them. Only part of our students use them, but available feedback sais that they are quite content with this new opportunity. In recent education it is emphasized to prefer learning "where to find facts" instead of learning facts themselves. Nevertheless, in medicine (and not only here) some basic knowledge of facts is inevitable and also accepted by students, but only when modern education methods are used. We assume that "Drill" or similar learning methods could be further used not only in the subject of medical microbiology, but also in some other subjects of medical education.