# **Practical Presentation Pearls**

Prepared by Jeannie Huang, MD, MPH
Rady Children's Hospital/University of California San Diego



### Serial-position bias: 1st and last items are best remembered.

Place most important points at the beginning & end of your presentation.



## Deeper levels of mental processing enhance recall

Frame key points so they require more mental processing.



#### Curiosity effect: Curiosity about a subject enhances recall

Start session with a quiz or mystery case.



## Picture-superiority bias: Recall is higher for pictures than text

Use more images than text in presentation materials.



#### Von Restorff effect: Differences are better remembered than similarities

Use differences in size, shape and color to emphasize key points.



## Color vision deficiency (CVD): >8% North Americans have some form of CVD

Use color-safe palette to emphasize key points.

Use the free app Color Oracle (http://colororacle.org) to check materials.



### Dual-processing: Learning occurs in visual & auditory channels

Best if use both modalities; however, some interactions may hamper recall. Optimal: Present mostly images and tell stories.

<u>Least effective</u>: Reading text on a slide. Learners end up devoting cognitive capacity to make sure text matches voice rather than learning.