This presentation demonstrates how the Faculty of Medicine at the University of British Columbia is addressing the issue of integrating higher fidelity multi-media assessment items into comprehensive summative examinations in a geographically distributed curriculum.

This presentation describes the decision-making, needs assessment, and implementation process employed in the development and realization of the Integrated Multimedia Assessment Project (iMAP), and the significant issues and challenges faced in the process. By examining these topics, we hope to improve the initial decision-making, development, and implementation processes in future projects while providing experiential knowledge that other institutions can apply to their own projects.

With the increase in the number of medical students and the transition to geographically distributed sites of program delivery, the role of information technology in the learning environment greatly increases. The implementation of information technology, however, is not a mere replication of the existing program in a different media. It requires adaptations in program delivery and features. Incorporating multimedia into exam questions improves the fidelity of questions and supports enhanced problem solving.