The results of this pilot survey demonstrate that some fellows-in-training are aware that there is inadequate IT exposure during their training. In response, the Canadian Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (CSACI) unveiled the first ever IT Training Manual for fellows-in-training at the annual 2010 CSACI meeting. The manual was distributed during a faculty-led teaching session. This was a pilot investigation to determine the perspectives of fellows in training about the IT training manual.

Methods: Canadian fellows-in-training in Allergy and Clinical Immunology (list derived from CSACI) were contacted via email to complete a survey (using survey monkey), both quantitative (Likert scales) and qualitative, to assess their opinion on the faculty-led session on IT and the IT Training Manual.

Results: Sixty-nine Canadian fellows-in-training were invited to complete the survey and 16 (23%) completed at least part of the survey. Fifty-four percent of the IT Training Manual respondents acknowledged exposure to IT during their training. Eighty-three percent of 12 respondents were internal medicine trained. Eighty-six percent of 7 respondents indicated that the faculty-led session on IT was very much impacted “by the IT Training Manual. One respondent commented that it is the basis of my knowledge.” Most respondents (86%) preferred the current paper booklet format of the IT Training Manual.

Conclusions: The results of this pilot study demonstrate that some fellows-in-training found the faculty-led session on IT and the IT Training Manual useful. Future studies will help to further elucidate the utility of these educational interventions.