

# The Perfect Pair: Using HESI Case Studies & EAQ Together



**Cami Weber**

MSN, MBA, RN, CHSM



HESI case studies and Elsevier Adaptive Quizzing (EAQ) are used together among many nursing programs. These digital products are valuable resources for nursing students as they progress through the nursing program. HESI case studies and EAQ are valuable as study tools, and for exam preparation and remediation. HESI case studies present students with complex, real-world case scenarios and questions related to the HESI case study topic. EAQ meets students where they are in their learning and allows the student to answer quiz questions in an environment that is individualized to their academic needs.

As a nurse educator, I have experienced students merely guessing to answer HESI case study questions. There are several reasons and explanations for why students guess. One reason being they do not have the knowledge needed to confidently answer the questions. Completing an EAQ quiz prior to completing a HESI case study can be helpful to instill the knowledge necessary for students to confidently answer the questions.

Upon working with a variety of nursing programs, faculty often view HESI case studies and EAQ as individual, stand-alone products. While HESI case studies and EAQ are great tools on their own, I believe they are enhanced when used together. HESI case studies and EAQ should not be reserved for classroom use only. Consider using HESI case studies and EAQ together in simulation, clinical, lab, and as part of a remediation requirement after HESI exams and faculty-prepared exams.

**Here are a few ideas for using HESI case studies and EAQ together. (The term “class” below refers to either theory, simulation, clinical, or lab)**

## **Pre/Post-Class Activity**

Assign an EAQ assignment to be completed by the students either prior to or after completing the HESI case study.

1. Focus the EAQ assignment on the topics covered in the HESI case study.
2. Require students to achieve a mastery level or a set percentage (i.e.- 80%) on a custom EAQ.

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Require students to set up an EAQ and complete a 10-question custom quiz related to the case study topic(s). Repeat until they achieve a set percentage (i.e.- 80%).

### Pre-Class and In-Class Activities

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Have students complete an EAQ assignment (created by faculty or student) on the HESI case study topic(s) prior to class. Use the EAQ assignment as a “Ticket to Class.”

1. Complete the HESI case study as an in-class activity — either as one large group or place students in small groups.
2. Require students to verbalize a rationale for why they chose their answers. Additionally, require the students to reference one or more EAQ questions as part of the rationale, if applicable.

Create a custom-by-question EAQ assignment for students to complete prior to class that focuses on three key points found in the assigned HESI case study.

1. Place the students into several small groups, have the students read the HESI case study, and highlight three key points they believe are related to the EAQ questions.
2. Have each group share their answers and rationale.
3. Lastly, complete the HESI case study questions as a class; discussing each rationale as it relates to the three highlighted key points.

### In-Class Activity

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Create a custom-by-question EAQ assignment focusing on one or more topics of the Nursing Process as it relates to the case study topic.

1. Complete the EAQ during class as one large group or several small groups.
2. Focus on helping students identify which topic of the Nursing Process the question is asking.

### Remediation Activity

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This is similar to the “Pre/Post Class Activity” listed above.

1. Assign one or more HESI case studies to be completed as remediation after each faculty-prepared exam or HESI proctored exam.
2. After completion of the HESI case studies, require the student to create and complete a custom EAQ related to the HESI case study topic and achieve a set percentage (i.e.- 80%).