



Clinical Supervision & Patient Safety

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Clinical Supervision

- A formal process of professional support and learning which enables individual clinicians to develop knowledge and competence and assume responsibility for their own practice.
- Cutcliffe and Butterworth, 2001

- “The current flaw is that many work practices depend on the judgement of junior doctors to recognise when they don’t know or are out of their depth.”
- Clinical Supervision at the point of care
Clinical Excellence Commission 2012 NSW

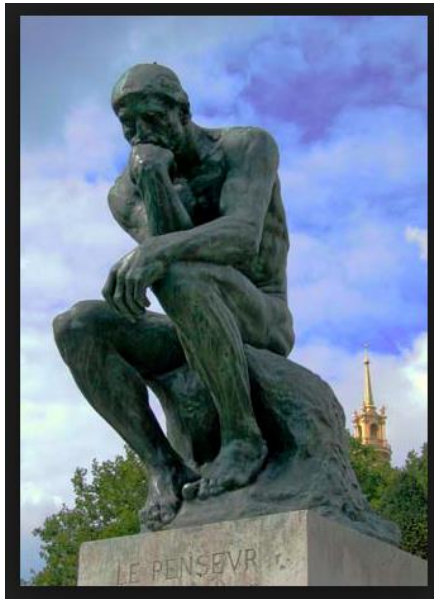
- Trainees are junior, mobile, inexperienced and may be “unconsciously incompetent” in their task and need to be actively supported and supervised rather than passively overseen.”
- Clinical Supervision at the point of care
Clinical Excellence Commission 2012 NSW

Training as an Apprenticeship

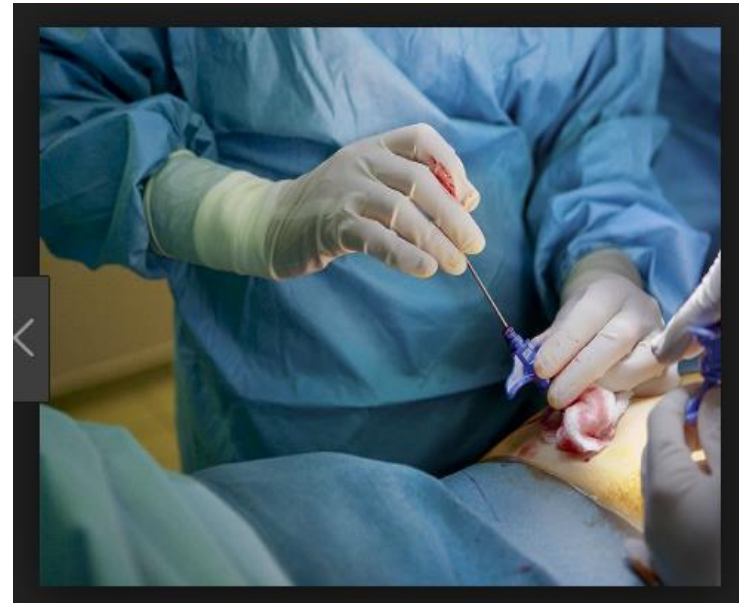
- “The apprenticeship model persists as the major model of training, especially in procedural specialities.”
- Clinical Supervision at the point of care
Clinical Excellence Commission 2012 NSW

Main EM Skills

Diagnostic Skills



Technical Skills



**Lack of
evidence**

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Clinical Supervision at the point of care

Clinical Excellence Commission 2012 NSW

- 54 RCAs 2008 and 2009 in NSW
- Clinical Supervision theme
 - - clinical reasoning
 - - decision making
 - - care provided

Major Issues

- Lack of recognition of deterioration 31/54
- Inadequate treatment 23/54
- Missed diagnosis 14/54
- Delayed diagnosis 4/54
- Wrong treatment 4/54
- Delayed treatment 3/54

Major Contributors

- Availability of Senior Clinician
- Workload
- Rostering/Skill Mix
- Conflicting Priorities
- Lack of Senior Clinician Review or Input
 - - escalation of care
 - - appropriate level of care
 - - culture re involving Senior Clinicians
 - - effectiveness of supervision

Measuring the Effectiveness of Clinical Supervision



More positive.....

- Term report & WBA
- FACEM exam



Ask the “consumers”

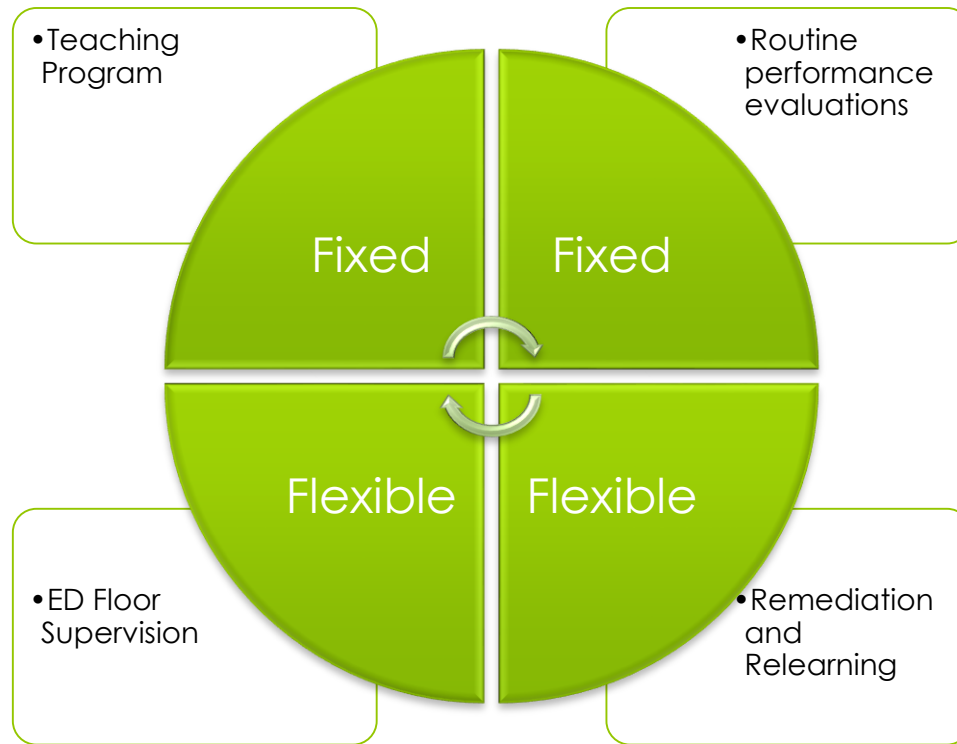


Clinical Supervision.....

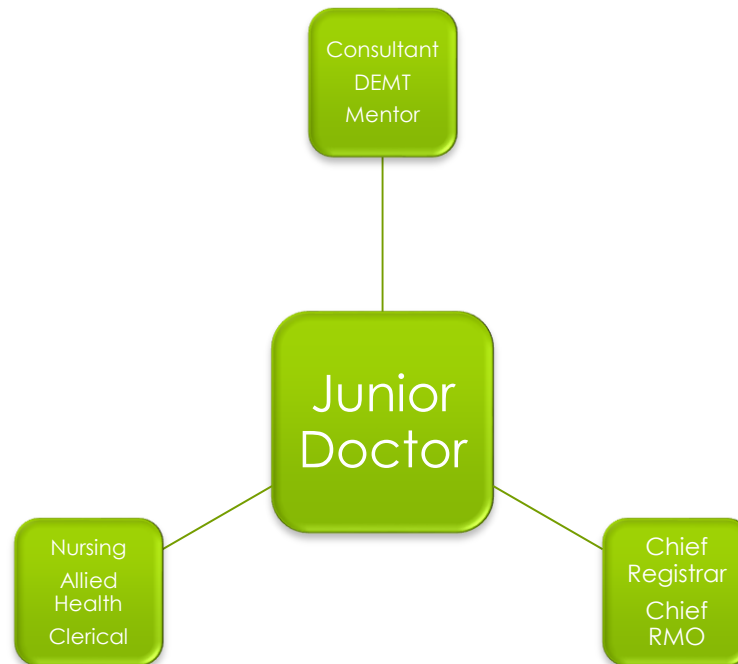


Good Clinical Supervision

Need a framework and system



Multi-disciplinary Team



Poorly performing doctors



Thank You

