



'Irish GP Trainers' experiences of the GP trainer-trainee one-to-one tutorial; a qualitative semi-structured interview study'

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Background

The objective of this study was to explore, via qualitative research, GP trainer experiences of the formal trainer-trainee one-to-one tutorial within Irish Postgraduate GP Training. Irish trainers are contracted to provide weekly protected one-to-one tutorials with their trainee¹. Little information existed regarding GP trainers' perspectives of the one-to-one tutorial in an Irish context.

Summary of work

Ethical approval was granted from the Irish College of General Practitioners' Research Ethics Committee. Recruitment occurred from one Irish training program, enabling results to reflect the experiences of a specific trainer group. Two pilot interviews and eight face-to-face semi-structured interviews were conducted from November 2015 to April 2016, allowing in-depth qualitative thematic data analysis. **Themes** that emerged included 'Functions of the one-to-one tutorial', 'Essential resources' and 'Evaluation of teaching'.

Results

- **Protected time and preparation** were deemed necessary for positive one-to-one learning experiences.
- **Patients** were considered essential for tutorial topic inspiration and reflection on workplace experiences.
- Trainers viewed their **clinical experience** as their main teaching **asset**.
- Trainers were divided on receiving trainee **feedback**; some feared negative appraisals from their trainees.

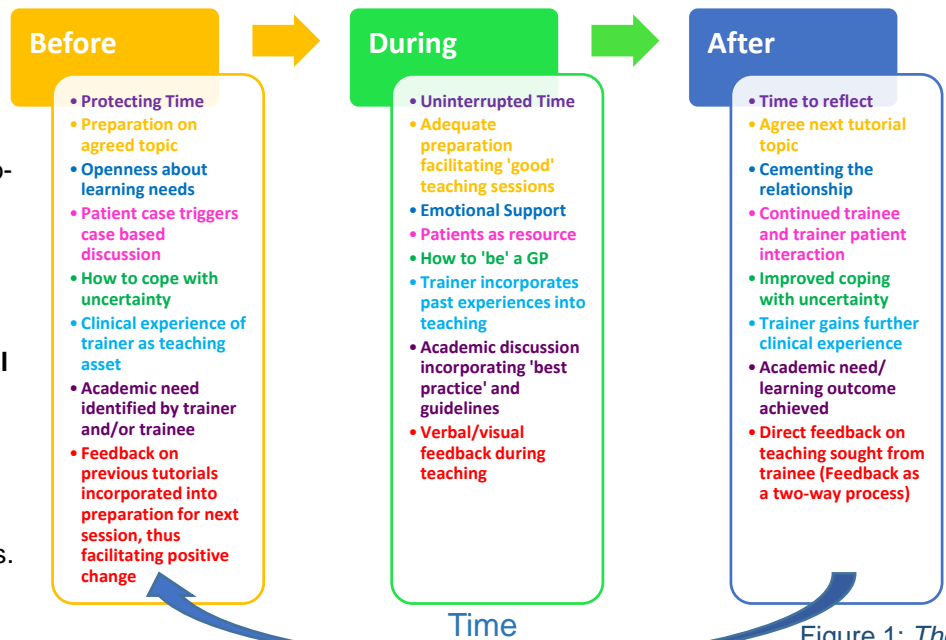


Figure 1: The Tutorial Cycle

Discussion

- One-to-one tutorials address the intangible elements of *being* a GP, facilitating trainee immersion in the ethos of general practice and the acquisition of skills deemed necessary to *survive* as a GP.
- GP trainers' were concerned about the integrity of trainee feedback on their teaching.

Conclusion

- GP trainers regard one-to-one tutorials as an essential facet of GP Training.
- For successful one-to-one teaching, protected time is essential.
- Trainers need to feel supported in receiving feedback from trainees on their teaching.

Take home message

- One-to-one tutorials in GP Training extend beyond their academic functions.
 - Support GP trainees' transition from the hospital to the community environment.
 - Aid holistic preparation for independent GP practice.

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References

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