



13th National Prevocational Medical Education Forum

Directors of Clinical Training Forum 9th November 2008

Introduction

At the largest DCT forum to date (approx. 35) DCTs actively participated in much discussion culminating in our recommendations. The full afternoon started with a presentation on results from the national DCT survey conducted in the weeks leading up to the National Forum. At the conclusion of the day DCTs were introduced (and many recruited) by Dr Stuart Marshall to the joint PMCV and PMIT medical error project.

The DCTs were split up into 5 groups (of similar regions) and asked to decide on the three most critical issues facing DCTs in relation to prevocational medical education. Where possible (and applicable) the groups were asked to suggest solutions. The groups were also asked to describe the most exciting/practical/useful activity within their region.

A representative from each group then presented a summary of their group's discussion and recommendations. After all groups had presented open discussion followed to determine the DCT Forum recommendations.

Discussion

Many topics were discussed including the variation seen in the DCT role across the country (especially in relation to IMG involvement), adequacy of time allocation and professional development and the essential education role played by supervisors and registrars. Also discussed was the ongoing frustration due to limited communication between Universities and hospitals regarding extra training requirements for individual JMOs – silo phenomenon. And Of course, the rising tide (or tidal wave) of graduate numbers rated more than the odd mention!

Significant progress seen in some regions included:

1. The funding of medical education positions (eg DCT, MEOs, supervisors) using a 'calculator' or formula based on the number of prevocational JMOs in each hospital.(Q'land)
2. The funding of a medical education registrar position (WA).
3. The use of effective online tools to guide and record educational requirements for individual JMOs (eg GPrime, RRMEO)

In short our recommendations that followed were about making a **national** process the establishment of adequately staffed and supported medical education units for our hospitals. With the sense or urgency the "tidal wave" of JMOs brings it was felt linking recommendations to accreditation requirements was required.

- Summary Key Issues
 - DCT, Supervisor & education registrar positions
- Definition and FTE
- Training
- Support
 - Increasing (under &) graduate numbers
- Building up educational resources

- Exploring new strategies
 - Need for innovative educational tools (eg simulation, online aids eg RRME0, GPrime)
 - Information networking
- Keep the silos talking

Recommendations

- That CPMEC develops nationwide benchmarks linking FTE allocations for DCTs, MEOs, Supervisors & education registrars to pre vocational trainee numbers (Nb medical education registrar positions be established in all region)
- That these benchmarks be linked to hospital accreditation
- That CPMEC develop national Position Descriptions (PD) for DCTs, Supervisors & education registrars
- That the PD for DCTs defines the scope of responsibilities for the various prevocational training levels including IMGs.
- That CPMEC develop a national framework for training and continuing professional development for DCTs, supervisors & registrars.
- That training within this framework be a requirement of hospital accreditation
- That funding for or provision of simulation resources be linked to hospital accreditation
- That any national accreditation process investigates the use of online training tools (eg GPrime or RRME0) to facilitate standardisation and recording of training
- That nationwide guidelines be developed regarding the accreditation of additional terms for internship (e.g. GP)
- That the CPMEC investigate and make recommendations on mechanisms to facilitate transfer of JMO training related information between Universities and hospitals and between hospitals!

Dr Allan Beswick
 Chairperson
 DCT Forum