
Appendix 1

Focus Group Guide: Year 5 general practice placement medical students

Introduction of purpose of this project and the process of focus groups. A reminder that the session will be audio-taped, and that participants can raise their hands at any point if they feel uncomfortable and the audio-taping will be stopped.

1. In your experience, what aspects of general practice placement do you find most valuable for your learning?
2. With increasing experience in the general practice placement, are there any ways you have changed your approach to doing your rotation? (For example, degree of independence, seeking opportunities, working with peers, etc)
3. Did you feel like a 'member of the team'? Why was this the case, and how could this be improved?
4. Through your role as a medical student on clinical placement, in what ways do you think you might provide benefits or 'value-add' to the practice?
5. In your opinion, are there any ways that having students in the workplace might take away from delivery of healthcare?
6. In your experience, how does the type of clinical rotation influence what you can learn and what you can contribute? (For example, emergency department, general medicine, surgery, general practice)
7. We know that medical students are involved in activities beyond direct patient care during their placements. What sort of activities have you been involved in? (If prompting is required – advocacy, community education, fundraising, quality assurance/audit, research)
8. Can you think of specific types of benefits that your involvement as a student brings to the community and/or the general practice?
9. We have many students describe how they have direct contributions to patient care, such as suggesting a management idea that was subsequently adopted or making a new diagnosis. Can you think of anything like this in your own placement experience?
10. How did those 'direct contribution' experiences impact on your learning?
11. Are there any other points you would like to raise relating to this topic of how medical students contribute to the general practice? Or any questions you have for me about the project?

Thank you very much for your time and participation.
