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Teaching and learning models

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Background

Practice environments in which students complete their placement will impact on their learning outcomes and attitudes towards the profession. Practice settings where students feel valued, connected to team members and the organisation, and supported in their learning, will result in quality outcomes for not only the student but also patient care and the healthcare setting. Traditionally nursing students were supervised utilising a 1:8 student to clinical teacher ratio, in a range of practice settings. However, with increasing collaboration between education providers and healthcare agencies the ability to develop flexible models of clinical supervision has been realised.

Innovation

In 2001 Deakin University, School of Nursing and Midwifery challenged the traditional supervision models and were the first school of nursing in Victoria to introduce an alternative, innovative model of clinical supervision: Student Fellowship. Currently the school offers a number of varying flexible models in collaboration with seven health networks across the public and private sectors, metropolitan, regional and rural regions. The models are predicated on the notion that increased integration between hospital and university enhances clinical education, results in improved student application of knowledge and skill, as well as increased socialisation to the clinician role.

Evaluation

The models facilitate clinical learning, promote clinical scholarship and build nurse workforce capability.