PSG Tool

Placement Supervision Group Tool: add granularity to your trainer reports

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THIS ISN'T GOING TO BE EASY BUT WE'LL START LOOKING

LOST

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Take Home Message

The PSG is a useful, independent tool in the identification of trainees needing additional support

UK Foundation Programme

Background

Clinical supervisors are required to assess foundation doctors at the completion of each four-month placement. Increasingly with shift work the contact between a trainee and their supervisor may be limited. The multisource feedback tool 'TAB' has been shown to be useful in identifying trainees needing additional support (1). However, supervisors indicated that colleagues were providing informal feedback about trainees but there was no consistent way to record any concerns raised.

Summary of Work

The Placement supervision group tool (PSG) was introduced into the UK Foundation Programme in 2012 allowing clinical supervisors to identify senior colleagues to provide feedback about a trainee. The tool is part of the e-portfolio options but is not mandated as core content.

We explored utilisation of PSG for 2016/17 cohort and whether it had independently identified trainees needing support or just validated identified concerns.

NES reviewed the PSG form completion for the cohort and compared which tools had identified concerns.

Discussion and Conclusion

The usage of the PSG tool has been variable across the UK we have demonstrated that it can independently identify trainees needing additional support. Encouragement of its wider use would help trainers to add granularity to the evidence they document in their reports. Use of the PSG should probably be encouraged for a greater number of trainees.

Summary of Results

In total 6657 PSG forms had been completed, with 15 showing major concerns. Half of the trainees also had major concerns raised with at least one of the following

    Educational supervisor report

    Clinical supervisor report

    TAB (Team Assessment of Behaviour)

However, half of the trainees with major concerns raised via PSG did not have major concerns raised via the other tools.