



21 June 2024

Public consultation response template – draft guidance on embedding good practice in clinical placements, simulation-based learning and virtual care in initial student health practitioner education

The Australian Society of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy (ASMIRT) is the peak body representing medical radiation practitioners in Australia. Our aims are to promote, encourage, cultivate and maintain the highest principles of practice and proficiency of medical radiation science, always mindful that the welfare of the patient should be at the centre of everything we do.

Please find some feedback on the above document:

ASMIRT suggests that the clinical placement guidance could have been a consultation on its own rather than combining with 2 other areas

Page 1 Content – ASMIRT notes the use of the word “learning in **initial** student health practitioner education”

Page 5 – item 2

Guidance

Student learning from clinical placements is likely to be maximised when students:

1. experience variety in their placements, including:
 - diverse practice settings (such as primary care, private and public hospitals, residential aged care, prisons etc.)^{6,7,8}
 - a diverse range of patients and patient presentations (clinical issues, populations, ages, cultures, etc.)
 - in diverse geographic locations (rural, regional and metropolitan), where possible.^{6,7,8}
2. are provided with extended clinical placements in the same setting to allow them to experience continuous patient care and observe the outcomes of treatment, where possible and if benefits to student learning outcomes are likely⁹

There appears to be an issue with Medical Radiation Practitioner students accessing patients' records to follow them up and learn about the patient's journey.

Page 6

To support student learning, clinical placement supervisors should:

1. be trained in clinical teaching, mentoring, assessment and professional behaviours, attitudes and attributes of successful clinical supervisors (where applicable). This includes having the training made available to them, and being able to undertake the training without unreasonable impost on their workload and current responsibilities^{6,10,11,14}

Registered Office:

Suite 1040-1044 (Level 10)
1 Queens Road
Melbourne Vic 3004
Australia

All Correspondence to:

P.O. Box 16234
Collins Street West Vic 8007
Australia

Contact us:

T +61 3 9419 3336
F +61 3 9416 0783
W www.asmirt.org



ASMIRT seeks clarification on whether each Board is going to determine the minimum training requirements for Clinical Placement Supervisors. If so, ASMIRT fully support this.

Page 7

3. be provided with allocated time, resources, and teaching support to ensure they can be successful clinical placement supervisors to students and support student learning needs and outcomes¹⁵

ASMIRT believes that allocated dedicated time is essential to support the students.

9. support the same student throughout an entire clinical placement experience where possible, and provide students with opportunities to work with other clinical placement supervisors⁶

Medical Radiation Practitioners need to differentiate between the Clinical Supervisor and Clinical Placement Coordinator (traditionally Clinical Tutor/Educator) as these are different roles.

Page 9

Simulation-based learning can enhance students' clinical and non-clinical knowledge^{19,20,21} and skills, critical thinking^{20,22}, psychomotor skills²⁰, self-confidence^{19,20,21} and self-efficacy²⁰. In addition, it can support the development of pre-clinical skills and may be more valuable to students if they already have some real-world clinical exposure.

ASMIRT notes the word support and not “replace” clinical practice.

Page 10

ASMIRT suggests that some clarity is provided regarding the amount of time required for actual clinical placement hours vs simulation- based learning. What is the acceptable amount of time to be spent on simulation- based learning? ASMIRT understand that universities are increasing intake numbers without the availability of suitable clinical placement opportunities. ASMIRT believe that the safety of the patient is paramount and would like assurances that students are supervised appropriately and receive quality training when on placement.

Page 11

3. Guidance on the inclusion of virtual care learning experiences

ASMIRT appreciates that this area is rapidly developing in the fields of TeleRadiology and remote operation of ionising radiation equipment.

Registered Office:

Suite 1040-1044 (Level 10)
1 Queens Road
Melbourne Vic 3004
Australia

All Correspondence to:

P.O. Box 16234
Collins Street West Vic 8007
Australia

Contact us:

T +61 3 9419 3336
F +61 3 9416 0783
W www.asmirt.org