The Development of a Behavioural Marker System for Medical Students’ Non-Technical Skills: The Medi-StuNTS System

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Non-technical skills

• Good non-technical skills are critical for high quality patient care
• Training in non-technical skills should be incorporated into undergraduate curricula
Behavioural marker systems
Skills Category: TEAMWORK

Skill Elements: SUPPORTING OTHERS

Behaviours:
- ✔ ACKNOWLEDGING CONCERNS
- ✗ NOT OFFERING ASSISTANCE
Aim

• Identify key non-technical skills for medical students

• Develop a non-technical skills behavioural marker system, specifically applicable to medical students, for use within simulated acute care scenarios
Method

• 16 medical students
• Acute care simulated scenarios
• Semi-structured interviews to identify relevant non-technical skills
• A panel of subject matter experts was convened to translate key non technical skills into:

- Categories
- Skill elements
- Exemplar behaviours
TEAMWORK AND COMMUNICATION

- Establishing a shared mental model
- Demonstrating active followership
- Supporting others
- Patient involvement
Establishing a shared mental model

Uses closed loop communication to verify task completion

Requests tasks without assigning a specific team member
SITUATION AWARENESS

TEAMWORK AND COMMUNICATION

DECISION MAKING AND PRIORITISATION

SELF AWARENESS

Prompts leader to consider escalation of care at appropriate time

Provides a senior colleague with inaccurate or ‘old’ clinical information
Next steps

• Trial and validate behavioural marker system in acute care simulation
• Improve the recognition and appreciation of key NTS
Conclusion

• Non-technical skills can be taught and developed
• Non-technical skills training should be incorporated into undergraduate training
THANK YOU

Questions?
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