Exploring the conundrum of practice education for undergraduate student nurses

Melanie Lauva and Caroline Vafeas
School of Nursing, Midwifery and Postgraduate Medicine, Edith Cowan University
m.lauva@ecu.edu.au, c.vafeas@ecu.edu.au

Abstract only - full paper in preparation

This paper is an excursion into the discourse surrounding clinical supervision for undergraduate nursing students. Findings and anecdotal reviews from a research study undertaken by an author of this paper showed students and academics alike appear to have some confusion over the role description and title of those responsible for providing supervision in clinical practice. While preceptorship has been the predominate model for facilitating the clinical experience since the move of nursing education to the tertiary sector, confusion abounds over whether preceptors are in fact precepting, mentoring, buddying or partnering our students. This paper represents an attempt to explore the terminology that has become a conundrum in clinical education.