Who are practice supervisors and how are they prepared?

Reference: PS1 Last Updated: 23/07/2018

A practice supervisor can be any registered health and social care professional working in a practice environment. They've been prepared and supported to take up their role and have up-to-date knowledge and experience relevant to the student they are supervising.

All nurses, midwives and nursing associates in any practice learning environment should be able to undertake a practice supervision for NMC approved programmes. As per section 9.4 of The Code, there is an expectation that all NMC registrants will support students' and colleagues' learning to help them develop their professional competence and confidence.

Relevant NMC standards for this section:

Standards for student supervision and assessment:
1.8: students have opportunities to learn from a range of relevant people in practice learning environments, including users of services, registered and non-registered individuals, and other students as appropriate

1.11: all nurses, midwives and nursing associates contribute to practice learning in accordance with the Code

2.7: all students on an NMC approved programme are supervised in practice by NMC registered nurses, midwives, nursing associates, and other registered health and social care professionals

3.4: have current knowledge and experience of the area in which they are providing support, supervision and feedback, and

3.5: receive ongoing support to participate in the practice learning of students

5.1: receive ongoing support to prepare, reflect and develop for effective supervision and contribution to student learning and assessment, and

5.2: have understanding of the proficiencies and programme outcomes they are supporting students to achieve

Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education
R3.3: have opportunities throughout their programme to work with and learn from a range of people in a variety of practice placements, preparing them to provide care to people with diverse needs

R3.16: have opportunities throughout their programme to collaborate and learn with and from other professionals, to learn with and from peers, and to develop supervision and leadership skills

S4.1: Theory and practice learning and assessment are facilitated effectively and objectively by appropriately qualified and experienced professionals with necessary expertise for their educational and assessor roles.

Standards for pre-registration nursing programmes
4.2: ensure that support, supervision, learning and assessment provided complies with the NMC Standards for student supervision and assessment

Standards for pre-registration midwifery programmes
4.2 : provide support, supervision, learning opportunities and assessment

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.2: ensure that support, supervision, learning and assessment
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tandards for pre-registration nursing associate programmes
.2: ensure that support, supervision, learning and assessment
rovided complies with the NMC Standards for student supervision
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tandards for post-registration programmes
.4: ensure practice supervisors:

.4.1: have undertaken a period of preceptorship in line with the NMC
rinciples for preceptorship as SCPHN or community nursing SPQ
ualified professionals or

.4.2: can evidence prior learning and relevant practice supervisor
xperience that enables them to facilitate effective evidencebased learning opportunities for post-registration SCPHN
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ommunity nursing SPQ students