



ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN
COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

Upskilling general doctors on sexual and reproductive health service provision in Timor-Leste



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BACKGROUND/AIMS & METHODS:

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- ❖ Despite significant progress, Timor-Leste still has some of the most challenging SRH indicators in the region.
- ❖ There is need for upskilling health providers in quality, comprehensive family planning services.
- ❖ Junior government doctors completing post-graduate diplomas in family medicine undertake short rotations with MSTL to upskill in SRH counselling and family planning service provision.

- ❖ Intensive 5-day classroom induction on gender, professional values, client-focused care, SRH theory.
- ❖ 8 – 10 week rotations with MSTL senior providers.
- ❖ Assessment includes pre and post-testing and a written and practical rotation assessment.



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RESULTS:

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- Improved SRH knowledge and family planning clinical practice.
- A positive shift in values was observed.



CONCLUSIONS/IMPLICATIONS:

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- On-the-job training has been successful in upskilling doctors in SRH knowledge, practical experience and client-focused care.
- Lessons learnt from the first intake used to improve learning outcomes for a second cohort. A third cohort is currently being taught.
- Lessons learnt used to inform future project design and collaboration within the health sector.

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