A Step in the Right Direction – A Learning Platform for OTDnet
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Background: 3 Phases of StEP:
Distance learning with eLearning modules, face-to-face or virtual small group case discussion and reflective learning
Workshop intensives
ECTV

Objective:
It is known that overseas trained doctors (OTDs) have a lower pass rate for their fellowship examinations compared to Australian graduates\(^1\). The aim of StEP is to provide OTD with comprehensive self-direct support to enhance their fellowship attainment success.

Approach:
StEP is a 3-phase program comprising of:

1. **StEP Distance**: a distance-learning program consisting of 16 clinical modules designed to get the participant into ‘the exam state of mind’. OTD are encouraged to build an up-to-date knowledge foundation, expand it through facilitated small group case discussion and then consolidate their knowledge through reflection and revision.

2. **StEP Intensive**: involves a three-day, large group, face-to-face workshop to address topics such as communication skills, Indigenous health, examination techniques and practise.

3. **StEP**: ECTV by medical educator.

Findings:
At the time of abstract submission, the program is under development with enrolments commencing in April, with likely engagement from two other regional training providers.

Discussion:
StEP is primarily delivered in a remote capacity, with low levels of assessment and no direct supervision, with the responsibility of learning belonging with the OTD. The StEP Distance eLearning platform fits well with this model of education delivery. Previously we have seen low levels of engagement from OTD in our external support programs through the RDWA, so it will be interesting to observe if the co-payment has an effect on participation and engagement levels with this typically challenging group of doctors.