



25th National Congress
Integrating Primary Care – creating a more connected
health and care system.



25th Annual Practitioners Conference

Developing entrustable professional activities (EPAs) for
postgraduate family medicine education in
South Africa

Prof L. Jenkins

All 9 Family Medicine Departments in South Africa, College of Family Physicians

Background



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- Workplace-based assessment (WPBA) in health education - global priority.
 - Landscape change WPBA also in SA (Burch)
 - SA Comm. of Deans & CMSA - tasked all postgrad programs - implement WPBA by 2024.
 - All programs - develop EPAs as part of programmatic assessment. (Ten Cate, AMEE 140)
 - Disciplines have started developing EPAs, including family medicine. (Jenkins)
 - South Africa - recent development, only some EPAs finalised for a few programs.
1. Burch V. The Changing Landscape of Workplace-Based Assessment. *Journal of Applied Testing Technology*, Vol 20(S2), 37-59, 2019.
 2. Sathekge M. Time to review the contribution of work-based assessment in our high-stakes exams. *Transactions* 2017;61(1):4-5. https://www.cmsa.co.za/view_document_list.aspx?Keyword=Transactions.
 3. Ten Cate O, Taylor DR. The recommended description of an entrustable professional activity: AMEE Guide No. 140. *Med Teach*. 2021 Oct;43(10):1106-1114. doi: 10.1080/0142159X.2020.1838465.
 4. Jenkins, L., Mash, R., Motsohi, T., Naidoo, M., Ras, T., Cooke, R., & Brits, H. (2023). Developing entrustable professional activities for family medicine training in South Africa. *South African Family Practice*, 65(1), 6 pages. doi:<https://doi.org/10.4102/safp.v65i1.5690>

The clinical context where assessment takes place



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Aim



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To review the development of EPAs for FM training in SA.

Objectives

- To describe the process of developing EPAs.
- To describe the EPAs that we developed.
- To share lessons learnt.
- To recommend the way forward.

Methods



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- 2020: National working group established - reps from all 9 postgrad programs.
- 2021: Training of working group chair - internat. Tx course (Univ Medical Centre Utrecht, Netherlands (ten Cate).
- 2020-2022: Awareness and faculty development - collaborated via virtual meetings, learning to develop EPAs.
- Oct 2022: Nat. workshops (Jhb, CT), SAAFP conf. workshop, CFP agenda, institutional awareness and faculty development.
- Literature shared, telephonic and email support through working group.

Methods...



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- 19 draft EPAs were written, discussed, edited and refined.
- 2 more online workshops (Jan and Feb 2023)
- 23 EPA titles finalized & drafting content (9 univ)
- 2-day CFP face-to-face workshop (June 2023)
- 22 EPAs content finalised



Results



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- 22 EPAs finalised.
- Preamble to the EPA set completed.
- EQual quality evaluation of EPAs completed.
- Portfolio of learning being revised.
- Conversations re Clin. Comp. Committees started.
- Consensus on the need, format, number, and distribution of EPAs to cover the curriculum.
- National buy-in: All nine academic programs.

EPA titles



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1. Managing women & newborns in the peri-partum period
2. Managing pregnant women
3. Managing women & babies in the postnatal period
4. Managing children with undifferentiated and more specific problems
5. Managing children requiring inpatient care & procedures
6. Providing anaesthesia in the district hospital operating theatre
7. Providing anaesthesia for minor procedures
8. Managing adult and adolescent patients with chronic conditions
9. Managing adult and adolescent patients with undifferentiated problems
10. Managing patients with infectious diseases
11. Managing adults with conditions that may require surgery or procedures
12. Managing patients with mental health disorders
13. Managing patients with emergency conditions
14. Managing patients with forensic problem
15. Managing adults and children with palliative care needs
16. Managing care for older patients
17. Managing patients with impairments & rehabilitation needs
18. Supporting community-based health services
19. Supporting and providing health promotion and disease prevention services
20. Providing training and continuous professional development
21. Leading a clinical team
22. Leading clinical governance activities

EPA2. Managing pregnant women.



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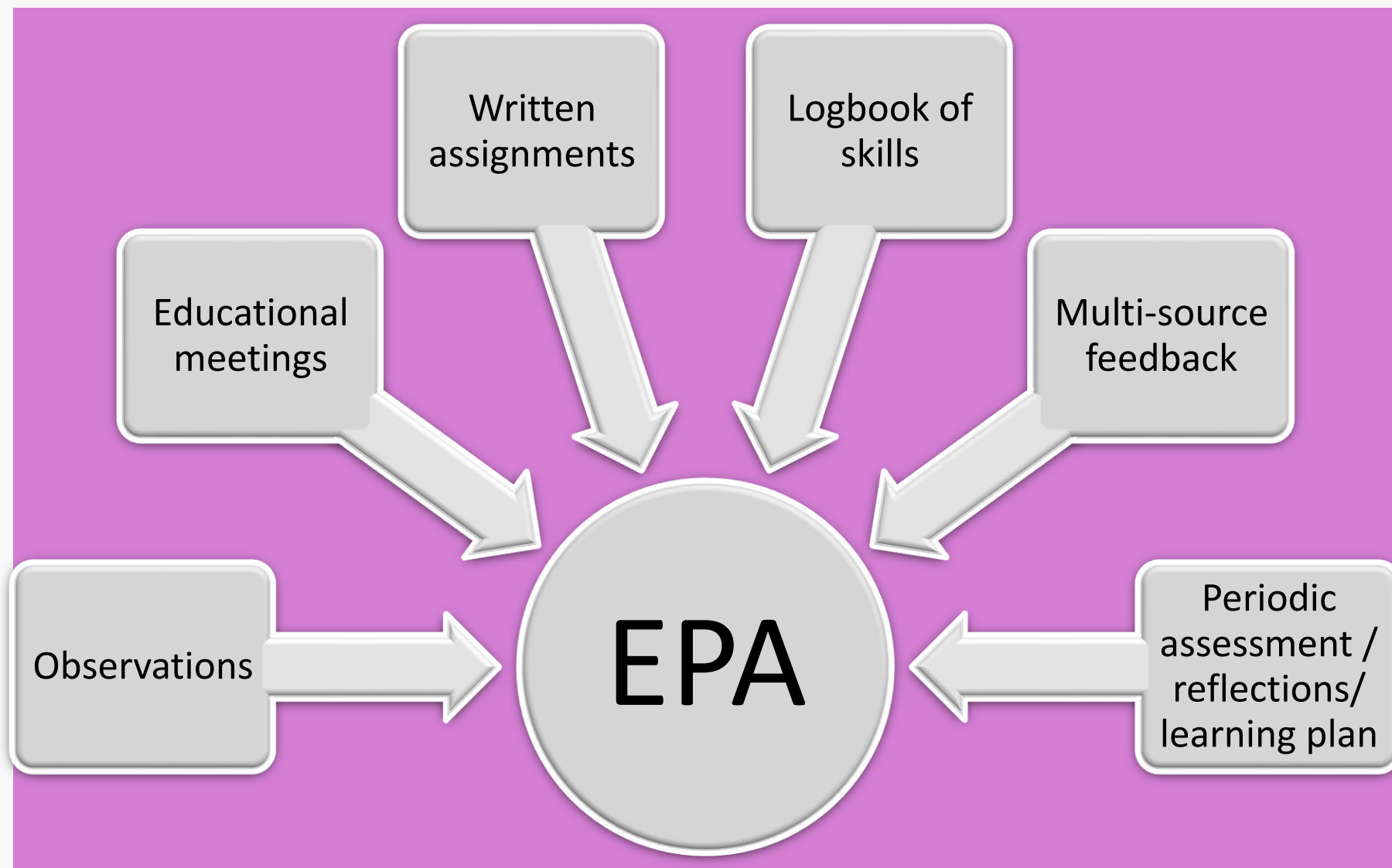


Data points that we have...



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1. Direct observations (miniCEX, DOPS, Teaching)
2. Educational meetings (with supervisor, others)
3. Logbook of skills (206 core, 39 elective)
4. Multi-source feedback (A RICH assessment)
5. Periodic assessments (allocation, last 6/12)
6. Learning plans (for allocation, for next 6-months)
7. Registrar reflections (allocation, last 6/12) [qual]
8. Written assignments on WPB learning & practice





Discussion - Lessons learnt

- Change management and logistical issues
 - Very new to everyone
 - Heavy clinical and academic workload
 - All agree that WPBA was needed to improve assessment authenticity
- Understanding the theory and practice of EPAs relevant to family medicine
 - Moved from writing EPAs for specific clinical skills to less granular EPAs (Max 20-30 EPAs)
 - Started with curriculum initially. Then rethought EPAs from the workplace perspective.
 - Explicit about context - district hospital and PHC clinics
 - Increase datapoints (saturation), different sources (triangulation), link to curr. (aggregation)
- Unmasking workplace learning and assessment challenges
 - Registrar reflection (Educational value, not compliance alone, observations > assessments)
 - Supervision feedback (detailed narratives that is useful)
 - Faculty training (in-house, Training the clinical trainer, nat. workshops) - accredit competency
 - Other supervisors – innovative, pragmatic
 - Simple, few assessment tools, cost-effective technology



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SCORION TALENT

- Training Manual
- Video Registrars Instruction Scorion e-portfolio
- Video Supervisors Instruction Scorion e-portfolio
- Frequently asked questions
- Registrar Tips
- Registrar Portfolio [FCFP]SA

Entrustable Professional Activities for Workplace Learning and Assessment

Olle ten Cate, PhD

Utrecht Center for Research and Development of Health Professions Education
University Medical Center Utrecht, the Netherlands

- Presentation: Workplace Learning, EPA's and ePortfolios - Presented by: Olle ten Cate
- YouTube presentation: Prof Louis Jenkins and Olle ten Cate

Work Place-Based Assessment

- YouTube presentation: Liesbeth Baartman

SCORION is an online platform with different types of assessments. You can use it as a portfolio to review and evaluate your progress and also as an anonymous feedback instrument. Learning experiences, assessments, activities and supporting documentation are on the platform, viewed by a dashboard.

The system currently being used to support the e-portfolio across our training programmes for several universities. This initiative is provided by Paranton in conjunction with the SA Academy of Family Physicians.

All first-line support is being done by Lucille Boshoff, SAAFP administrator, as easy as sending an email, admin@saaftp.org



Promote optimal health for the people in Southern Africa through advocacy, support and the development of the primary health care team, and the establishment of an equitable, humane and integrated district health care system.

Recent Posts

- JUNE 22, 2023
Vacancy: SENIOR SUPPORT MANAGEMENT OFFICER (SL.8)
- JUNE 22, 2023
Vacancy: PROFESSIONAL NURSE SPECIALTY (SPECIALTY) GRADE 1,2
- JUNE 22, 2023
Vacancy: PHARMACY SUPERVISOR GRADE 1



Next steps

1. Share EPAs with registrars & supervisors in each department.
2. Build Curriculum list (developing draft).
3. Determine CCC members (SACOMD WPBA Guideline for CCCs).
4. Determine local departmental CCCs (local process).
5. Rewrite e-Portfolio and secure funding.
6. Implement EPAs – beginning 2024. Slowly, learning exercise.
7. Review EPAs after 1 year - revise.
8. Increase weighting of WPBA in national exit exam.



Conclusion

- We described an innovative process of 9 academic departments working collaboratively through a nat. working group to develop EPAs for the discipline.
- Process highlighted many areas of improving WPBA, our e-portfolio, training environment towards more authentic and entrustable trainee assessments.
- Close cooperation with the CMSA is facilitating national agreement.
- Writing EPAs is a new educational experience for family physicians in SA.
- Sharing our experience may help to understand this process better and hopefully help others at similar points of the journey.

Acknowledgements

CFP Council

University FM Departments at Stell, UCT, Wits, UKZN, SMU, WSU, UFS, Limpopo, Pretoria