



Medical Aesthetics Training: Shifting to Collective Competence

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With increased demands for medical aesthetics procedures and the sudden profusion of newly licensed, and unlicensed, providers who are performing these medical aesthetics procedures also comes the responsibility to shift to collective competence. Collective competence refers to what occurs among professionals in action, emphasizing the sharing of experiences, knowledge, and perceptions among those who are providing services to the medical aesthetics client. Registered nurses and medical students are not taught to perform cosmetic procedures in basic nursing or medical programs and thus require a post-entry-level education to validate their competency. The current medical aesthetics apprenticeship training

ccording to the American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) and the American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (AAFPRS), which includes Canadian doctors, 2.4 million soft-tissue filler procedures were performed in 2015, up 6% from 2014, and a staggering 274% since 2000 (AAFPRS, 2014; ASPS, 2015). Although adverse reactions are rare, a potential severe filler complication is blindness and, currently, 98 cases around the world have been reported (Carruthers, Fagien, Rohrich,

approach of see one, do one, and teach one focuses on

teaching technical skills and thus does not sufficiently

address the ever-changing health care context and the am-

biguity in practitioner role. Recent scholars highlight that

when health care failed or an error has been identified, it

is rarely adduced to an individual's competence but rather

is more likely to be a failure of the collective team. In this

aesthetics practitioners are trained. In particular, it advo-

cates creating opportunities within the curricula to train practitioners as a collective body, as opposed to providing

training that focuses on the individual's competence and

technical skills alone.

article, we are advocating for a change in how medical

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Celina Da Silva, PhD, RN, completed her dissertation at the Lawrence S. Bloomberg, Faculty of Nursing, University of Toronto, titled "A Phase 1 Study of a Kolb-Influenced, High-Fidelity Simulation Intervention Implemented to Improve Nursing Students' Use of a Conflict Resolution Skill." Some of the research studies that Celina is participating in relate to innovations in interprofessional education. She was the Principal Investigator of a study, titled "Simulated Practice Center Program Evaluation, George Brown College (GBC), Health Sciences Center." This research study generated qualitative data related to the Health Sciences Simulation program at GBC in order to better support the future development of simulation education for health professions students. Presently, she

is conducting a research study that involves designing, refining, and testing a virtual simulation (Body Interact) modality geared to teach interprofessional students decision-making skills related to a deteriorating patient care case. As well, she is part of a research team that recently was awarded an SSHRC grant and developed the mentorship site for postsecondary students with disabilities across Ontario who are partnered with other professionals.

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Weinkle, & Carruthers, 2014). Many experts agree that prevention, prompt interventions, and continuity of care are paramount in reducing and eliminating adverse reactions (Carruthers et al., 2014; Lafaille & Benedetto, 2010; Persaud et al., 2013). However, recently, with the increase demand for medical aesthetics procedures and the sudden profusion of newly licensed, and unlicensed, providers who are performing these medical aesthetics procedures, patient safety outcomes remain a top priority (AAFPRS, 2014; ASPS, 2011; Kirkey, 2016; Physicians Coalition for Injectable Safety, 2013). The purpose of this article is to open for discussion and advocate for a shift to collective competence training approaches as a way to support patients' safety outcomes and support teamwork. Collective competence refers to what occurs among professionals in action (Lingard, 2009, 2014; Lingard, as cited in Hodges & Lingard, 2013), emphasizing the sharing of experiences, knowledge, and perceptions among those who are providing services to the medical aesthetics client. We suggest that licensed health care practitioners lead the way in creating better opportunities to collaborate and communicate during medical aesthetics apprenticeship training. We first discuss the meaning of collective competence and highlight the current focus on individual competence in nursing and medical aesthetics training. Then we discuss the current social and political contexts that affect nurses' roles and require a shift to collective competence. Finally, we discuss strategies to support collective competence in medical aesthetics apprenticeship training.

BACKGROUND

Collective competence has been viewed as invaluable (Lingard, 2009; Lingard as cited in Hodges & Lingard, 2013). Lingard (2014) in her keynote presentation to medical educators argued that when health care failed or an error has been identified, it is rarely adduced to an individual's competence but rather is more likely to be a failure of the collective team. In fact, according to a report from the Institute of Medicine (IOM), as many as 98,000 hospitalized patients die each year as a result of medical errors and none of these errors have been attributed to an individual licensed practitioner but rather to the system and infrastructures (Horns & Loper, 2002). Lingard (2014) advocated for a change in how health care practitioners are trained, in particular creating opportunities within the curricula to train practitioners as a collective body, as opposed to providing training that focuses on the individual's competence at any point in time. A collectively competent team can still be competent even if one member is incompetent (Kitto, McMillan, Marshall, & Wilson, 2014; Lingard, 2009; Melkonian & Picq, 2010; Weick & Roberts, 1993).

Focusing on the individual's competency, and teaching to the technical skills and their knowledge discourse (Hodges & Lingard, 2013), without considering the social (historical) and physical factors affecting client care, omits the complex context that prevails in the patient care delivery realm (Higgs & Titchen, 2001). Thus, mastering injection skills is only a part of being a competent medical aesthetics practitioner. Physicians and other health care providers need collaborative training on how to delegate, negotiate, and better communicate the handover of assignments and skills previously their's alone. Shinners and Franqueiro (2017), nurse researchers and educators, also called for a shift in nursing education from focusing on individual competence to building the competence of a team to meet the increasing needs of the current health care environment. Thus, individual competence, together with collective competence during the training of medical aesthetics nurses and physicians, has the potential to support patients' safety in the ever-changing context.

Individual competence has the status of a "God term" in many health care disciplines (Hodges & Lingard, 2013, p. 1). Registered nurses and medical students are not taught to perform cosmetic procedures in basic nursing or medical programs and thus require a post-entrylevel education to validate their competency (College of Nurses of Ontario [CNO], 2013, 2016; College of Registered Nurses of Nova Scotia, 2013). Becoming a competent nurse focuses on the nurse's knowledge and skills to perform a procedure in a safe way (CNO, 2013). Benner, a pioneer nurse researcher and educator, argued that nurses' competence involves a step-by-step progression from novice (a beginner who has no experience, lacks confidence to demonstrate safe practice, and requires continual verbal and physical cues) to expert (one who has mastered the skills) (Benner, Tanner, & Chesla, 1997). However, Benner's concept of competence has been challenged, as a practitioner can be both a novice and an expert simultaneously (Gobet & Chassy, 2008). For example, many nurses working in medical aesthetics might be expert medical, surgical, or pediatric nurses who have decided to learn a new skill. Thus, one can be a novice and an expert (Smith, 2012). Teaching and training to enhance medical aesthetics practitioners' competence must integrate the social, physical, and political contexts of the individual and collectively.

Individual competence is the focus in medical aesthetics training. The training curriculum centers on isolated and measurable skills. Typically, these aesthetics training programs occur over a weekend. The education involves several components: (1) reading material about the anatomy and physiology of the head and neck and potential complications related to injecting fillers; (2) passively observing videos and participating in lectures with experts demonstrating their unique injection techniques; and (3) sometimes a brief supervised hands-on practice session.

Many of these training programs are led by physicians or nurses. They would have been excellent opportunities for collaboration, as both physicians and nurses attended. Unfortunately, the focus is not on collaborating and learning from each other but on isolated technical skills that could be observed and measured.

The aging population, advances in technology, and the health care restructuring are some of the social (relationship), physical (accessing services), and political (power differences) contexts affecting the role and responsibilities of health care providers. Thus, training health care providers with the dogma of see one, do one, and teach one has been criticized as an unsafe practice, as it is believed to omit these social, physical, and political contexts (Kotsis & Chung, 2013; Mason & Strike 2003; Rohrich, 2006; Smith et al., 2004; Vozenilek, Huff, Reznek, & Gordon, 2004). These social, physical, and political contexts also contribute to the current role ambiguity challenges medical aesthetics practitioners' experience. In Canada, a physician and a nurse can inject fillers; however, a nurse injects "under the direction of a physician" (College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia, 2014; CNO, 2017, p. 2). Yet, having a physician's direction is open to many interpretations: Can a physician's assessment and direction to the nurse be completed virtually or be delegated? Should a physician's order to inject the fillers be in a written, verbal (face-toface or telephone), or Web-based format. Duchscher and Myrick (2008) discussed how the advances in technology, the aging population, and the restructuring of health care during the last few decades have resulted in role ambiguity for nurses. For example, the reliance of nurses and doctors on e-health technology to assess, diagnose, and even treat patients who have limited access to health care is increasing (American Society for Quality, 2013). A current prediction is that technology will replace the need for nurses' and physicians' physical presence so as to provide care to diverse populations in different places and to increase continuity of care and access to services (British Broadcasting Corporation, 2013). We see an increase of videoconferencing technology such as Skype and e-counselling as a strategy to support accessibility of health services. Thus, the need to clarify and communicate is paramount.

Another factor leading to role ambiguity is how some of the direct care work that traditionally constituted the domain of nursing has also been shifted to others, for example, to technicians, registered practical nurses, personal support workers, and family (Duchscher & Myrick, 2008). This rapid role shift has clashed with a physician-dominated health care culture and contributed to challenges in collaboration for nurses, physicians, and other health care teams because of poor communication, power relation issues, scope of practice limitations, and role ambiguity (Rainford, Wood, McMullen,

& Philipsen, 2015; Stankovic, 2016). Curtis, Vries, and Fintan (2011) described how the historical factors that shape each profession's roles, responsibilities, and power relationships are accentuated during conflict and disagreement. Thus, the need to increase patients' access to services and support continuity of care has also increased instances of role overlap between and among practitioners; yet, limited training is given on how to communicate delegation of tasks and responsibilities (DiCenso et al., 2010).

COLLECTIVE COMPETENCE: PARTICIPATING IN AUTHENTIC SITUATIONS

Lingard (2009) proposes key approaches to promote collective competence. She argues that collective competence can be achieved through *authentic situations*. There is evidence to support the thesis that when a multidisciplinary team comprising physicians and nurses trains together, there is an increase in successful patient outcomes. Neily et al. (2010) reported an 18% decrease in the mortality rate when an operating room multidisciplinary team had trained together. Using integrated simulation can facilitate practitioners' participation in authentic situations and increase good patients' outcomes ((Gomoll, O'Toole; Czamecki & Warner, 2007; Grechenig, Fellinger, Frankhauser & Weiglein, 1999) Phipps et al., 2012; Riley et al., 2011).

We advocate for the use of more integrated simulation during medical aesthetics training, which can support moving the focus in training from parts and isolated technical skills (individual competence) to a collective competence that includes those issues of social and political contexts that prevail within medical aesthetics practice. Integrated simulation is defined as activities (e.g., simulated persons, case scenario, interactive gaming) and/or devices (task trainers) that mimic the reality of a clinical environment and that have been designed for use in demonstrating procedures and promoting team decision making and critical thinking (Jeffries, 2005; Low-Beer et al., 2011; Xu, Fung, Glicksman, Brandt, & Campbell, 2012). In the IOM report, To Err Is Human: Building a Safer Health Care System, simulation training is recommended as one strategy that can be used to prevent errors and increase collaboration in the clinical setting in a safe environment (Kohn, Corrigan, & Donaldson, 2000).

For Dall'Alba and Sandberg (1996), collective competence occurs through enriching participants' lived experience of their practice. This means creating an aesthetics medical scenario where participants do not simply acquire new injection knowledge, nor where old injection knowledge is replaced by new; instead, learning opportunities involve the participants' ways of experiencing aspects of the medical aesthetics practice with each other in a simulation

scenario. Dall'Alba and Sandberg (1996) suggested first exploring with prospective students what they, the students, considered central to a medical aesthetics practice. For example, simulation can be used to enact problem-solving scenarios calling for prompt team management in a case of an artery occlusion. Medical aesthetics training could include a simulation scenario that lays out the problem-solving algorithms for each professional's role.

Whereas individual competence focuses on objective and measurable testing, collective competence training can use group assessment and feedback during a simulation scenario in different contexts (Boreham, 2004). Using ongoing peer assessment and providing feedback are linked to building professional collective competence (Van der Vleuten & Schuwirth, 2005). For example, assessing prospective students' existing knowledge of anatomy and physiology and then using simulation with a multidisciplinary team to test skills in context. Investing in ongoing assessment and evaluation, and creating a group of experts as resources after the completion of the training, also enhances collective competence.

Dall'Alba and Sandberg (1996) also suggested shifting the focus in training from parts and isolated skills to connect to the whole dimension of medical aesthetics practice. If the majority of the training focuses on the anatomy of the face and avoiding unwanted outcomes while achieving aesthetics goals, it leaves the most difficult task of integrating the parts into a coherent way of experiencing the medical aesthetics practice context to the students. Thus, the whole is often missing in practitioners' attempt to learn the parts. However, when educators use simulation to lead a process that includes an ongoing interplay between the isolated skill parts and the significance of the practice in context, the learning process becomes one of collective competence development for both practitioners and educators.

CONCLUSION

With increased demands for medical aesthetics procedures and the sudden profusion of newly licensed, and unlicensed, providers who are performing these medical aesthetics procedures also comes the responsibility to shift to collective competence. The current apprenticeship training approach of see one, do one, and teach one that focuses on teaching technical skills for individual competence is not sufficient, particularly in the ever-changing health care context. We advocate for a shift to collective competence, which focuses on the relational and context aspects between the teacher, the student, and the ongoing environment of practice. Some suggested means to enhance collective competence include creating opportunities for future medical aesthetics practitioners to participate in authentic situations. Authentic situations are those situations where both physicians and nurses are trained together using integrated simulations. Although the medical aesthetics training period is brief, continuing relationships afterward are paramount. We leave you with an analogy:

"The question should not be whether a particular pilot is performing well, but whether or not the system that includes the pilot, co-pilot and the technology of the cockpit is performing optimally to ensure that passengers arrive safely to their destination. (Hutchins & Klausen, 1998, p. 22).

It is the performance of that system, not the technical skills of any individual pilot, that determines the desired outcome.

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