Clinical Genetics Learning Capture Example

Trainee & Program Details

Training Program
Clinical Genetics

Training Program Phase *
Specialty Foundation

Date of Learning*
02/06/2026

Learning Capture Details

Type of Learning *
Readings and resources

Title*
Communicating with People who have Intellectual Disability: The GeneEQUAL Educational Toolkit

Select the primary learning goal *
Learning goal 16 - Genetic counselling

Learning Capture Details

Description of Activity *
I have been working through 'The GeneEQUAL Educational Toolkit', a resource produced by the NSW Health Centre for Genetics Education. The focus of this learning goal is my recent completion of the new module in the toolkit called 'GeneEQUAL CHOICES: Supporting Decisions about Genetic Testing'. There are six sections in the resources, for the purposes of this learning capture I am focusing on my learning regarding the first section, the 'Key Learning Principles'.

The Key Principles for Informed Decision- Making about Genetic Testing, include:
1. Support Emotional Wellbeing Throughout the Decision-Making Process
2. Assume Ability to Understand
3. Explain all Possible Outcomes and Consequences
4. Clarify all Available Choices and Document Their Preferences

And a Quick guide and Reference Checklist.

What did you learn? *
This has been an interesting learning experience for me. It has highlighted to me that I must remain diligent in interrogating my own unconscious bias and its potential impact on communication with patients. Further to this I am reminded of the importance of patient-centred care and that includes the need to slow down and take the time to establish rapport when communicating potential stressful and high impact clinical information to patients.

Some other key takeaways for me were around respecting the patient's individual autonomy in decision making and focusing on clarity in both written and verbal communication.

How will you apply this learning in the future? *
In the future I want to continue to empathise with the patient and consider the level of health literacy. I know I need to maintain an individualized approach. My focus will continue to be on accessibility and clarity. Practically I want to focus on not bypassing the patient by speaking to family and/or carers first and I want to be sure to document patient preferences clearly and make sure they understand the ability to make ongoing choices.

Assessor Feedback (optional)

Feedback From *
Dr Clara O'Donnell

Assessor Role *
Rotation Supervisor

Personal Message
Hi Clara, I would really appreciate your feedback on my learning capture. Thanks.

Feedback Requested Date
02/06/2026

Feedback *
I am heartened to read the learning capture submitted by Maria. Especially as it relates to her ability to be honest and reflective on her behaviours and feelings around her communication with patients.

I am keen to see the practical focus on ensuring accessibility and clarity in both written and verbal communication demonstrated. I also appreciate that Maria will be sure to not skip over the patient and their preferences and understands the need to emphasis ongoing choices. I look forward to watching Maria's development in this area continue and her capacity grow.