



## Vice President's report for AGM January 2021

COVID-19 has changed our world and has had a huge impact on our working and personal lives. The trainees on the national pilot Breast Clinician Credential have needed to adapt to the change, and similar to the experience of other speciality trainees, the disruption has varied with geographical location.

As educational and clinical supervisor it has been challenging to balance high quality training with the risk to safety of the trainee, the patients and other staff members. Fortunately, numbers were low in our location during the first wave, interrupting only a couple of weeks of training.

I am a novice to educational supervision. Without detracting from the demands on the trainees to meet the curriculum requirements, it has been a steep learning curve for me, a breast clinician and ex-GP who has never been through a conventional speciality training pathway. The curve started with my training in late 2018. I recall being in a room (yes, those were the days!) with lots of clever consultants who were totally familiar with all the speciality trainee lingo. I muddled my way through the CiPs and DOPs, REALMS and QIPATs, ARCPs and TOs. Another afternoon session, and there I was, a GMC accredited Educational Supervisor who now had to go out there and.....yes, supervise!

My radiology colleagues and fellow educational supervisors for the pilot trainees have offered invaluable help and advice through the year. Establishing clearly defined goals, and approachability have been key to success. The induction, mid-year and end of year appraisals with the trainee, and the structured end-of-year review have been completed. Becoming familiar with all of this has been demanding on my time but certainly it has been a rewarding experience.

I would like to encourage you all to consider signing up to the Educational Supervisor training programmes offered by your employers. This is particularly relevant if your breast team might consider taking on a trainee. An application for funding a second cohort has been submitted to HEE, and we hope funding will be available in 2021. Updates will be posted on the RCR website. If applicable to you, let the course facilitator know in advance that you are not familiar with speciality training and he/she might offer pre-course reading or advice. The ABC could look at establishing other means of support such as an Ed Sup WhatsApp chat, and another thought for the future might be to run an ABC study day "An Introduction to educational supervision" .

Despite the setbacks we have all faced with the pandemic, teaching and training must continue with expertise in mentoring and supervision. If you have cause to reflect on your career and 5-year plan, do think about adding educational supervision to your PDP.

Stay safe, healthy and optimistic for a better year ahead.

*All the best*

*Di*

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November 2020