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To All Medical Directors and Directors of
Medical Education

7th January 2015

Dear Medical Directors and Directors of Medical Education

RE: Locum Consultants acting as Supervisors for Trainees

We are writing to you to clarify the issue of Locum Consultants acting as supervisors of trainee doctors. Issues were raised at the Quality Scrutiny Boards by several speciality schools, and we wanted to ensure that we maintain the high standards of supervision for trainees that we all aspire to, and which ensures patient safety and good quality care.

We are suggesting the following –

1. That locum Consultants are not able to act as named Educational Supervisors
2. That locum Consultants can act as named Clinical Supervisors if
 - a. They are contracted for a minimum of 3 months, and this specific role is in their contract
 - b. They have undertaken the training requirements for this role (<https://www.eastmidlandsdeanery.nhs.uk/page.php?id=1774>)
 - c. They are appraised for this role as part of an annual appraisal process if in a long term locum position

Clearly locum consultants can provide day to day supervision if this is felt to be appropriate upon appointment, but the formal roles of named clinical and named educational supervision require specific training.

We hope that this will be acceptable, and we would be grateful if this could be circulated to your Clinical Directors for action.

Yours faithfully



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