What is the relationship between tutor feedback and self-directed learning in the clinical setting?

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A qualitative study to examine tutor feedback and self-directed learning in the clinical setting.
The purpose of this study is to provide information on what student nurses find facilitating and obstructing in receiving tutor feedback in the clinical setting. In addition, we will examine the relationship between feedback received from the tutor in the clinical setting and the student’s ability to become a self-directed learner.
Methods

Year 2 and Year 3 BScN students in acute placements will attend one focus group after mid term evaluation and then do 5 weekly reflective journals.

There will be two year 2 focus groups and two year 3 focus groups for a total of 32 students.
Focus Group Questions

1. What do you consider tutor feedback in the clinical setting?
2. How frequently do you receive tutor feedback in the clinical setting?
3. What is enough tutor feedback? Do you receive enough? Too much? Too little?
4. What clinical activities tend to give you the most tutor feedback?
5. Do you feel comfortable asking for more/or less feedback?
Focus Group Questions (cont’d)

6. How does the tutor give you feedback?
7. When does the tutor give you feedback?
8. How do you respond to verbal feedback that you receive from your tutor (both positive and negative)?
9. What impact does tutor feedback have on your clinical learning?
10. What is the most helpful feedback you have ever received from a tutor in a clinical setting? Please explain.
Focus Group Questions (cont’d)

11. What is the least helpful feedback you have ever received from a tutor in a clinical setting? Please explain.

12. Is your clinical performance impacted when you receive positive feedback from your tutor? If so, how?

13. Is your clinical performance impacted when you receive negative feedback from your tutor? If so, how?

14. What factors influence your ability to act on the feedback (positive and negative)?
Written Journal Entries

Shortly after each weekly clinical experience (possibly less than 2 days) write a reflective journal using the following questions as a guideline:

• Identify a feedback interaction (positive or negative) with your tutor
• Provide a brief description of the interaction
Ask yourself:

- How did I feel while it was occurring, (reasons might relate to me, my tutor, the environment)?
- What was the outcome of the interaction? Is it what I expected? What or why not?
- Will I do things differently as a result of the outcome?
Data Analysis

- Transcribe focus group interviews and journal entries
- Thematic content analysis