

How do Medical Students learn to perform female pelvic examinations and breast examinations?

How do they learn to help women feel comfortable during these personal examinations?

Medical students at the University of Birmingham are taught by women who have been trained to be teachers of these skills. Our Gynaecological Teaching Associates (GTAs) learn how to do these examinations so they can teach the students. It is a unique programme where women teach in pairs with each student practicing the skills on one of the GTA's. GTAs are able to provide feedback about both the student's competence and sensitivity in performing the examination, and help students overcome some of the worries they face in conducting these examinations.

Learn more

If this sounds interesting to you, and you would like more information, or to register to attend an information session, please call Karen Barry at the Interactive Studies Unit, Primary Care Clinical Sciences, College of Medical and Dental Sciences, University of Birmingham, before September 7th 2009.
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Email: k.barry@bham.ac.uk

Who are GTAs?

- Women who want to help future doctors and health professionals learn to be sensitive to the needs of female patients.
- Women who are comfortable with their own bodies and have a positive body image.
- Women who are able to learn and communicate medical information. Training is provided.
- Women who have not had any of their female organs removed. (Uterus, ovaries, cervix, breasts, though previous breast operations are not a problem.)
- Women who can provide verbal feedback to students in a sensitive and constructive manner. Training is provided.
- Women who are available on Fridays (9am – 5pm) and some evenings throughout the year.