The many faces of clinical supervision:
A call for new metaphors

Clinical supervision is the foundation of workplace-based medical education. It is a complex and subtle art. Why, then, are our conventional ways of thinking about clinical supervision -- our metaphors -- so simplistic? This presentation will describe three problematic assumptions that limit our understanding of clinical supervision. Then, drawing on research from the past decade, we will consider new (and perhaps uncomfortable) metaphors that highlight some of the contemporary challenges of clinical supervision, such as the question of resident autonomy, the role of productive failure, and the place of emotions in supervisory relationships.

Objectives:

By the end of this Grand Rounds Presentation, participants should/will be able to:

- Identify the conventional metaphors of clinical supervision
- Understand how they limit our approaches to supervisory practices and relationships
- Describe new metaphors for grappling with contemporary supervisory challenges
- Recognize the power of metaphor for shifting assumptions and practices

The Medical Grand Rounds at University Hospital is a self-approved group learning activity (Section 1) as defined by the Maintenance of Certification program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. Evaluations will be sent out and your attendance calculated automatically through One45.