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#### **DISCLOSURE**



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The aim of this study is to describe the support offered by preceptors to undergraduate nursing students at a school of nursing in South Africa.

**Employer:** University of the Free State

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#### INTRODUCTION

- Competent practitioners are needed to function in a complex health care environment (van Graan et al., 2016).
- For competence to transpire students should be able to link classroom knowledge to practice (Chang et al., 2011).
- Preceptors is the ideal entity to support students and to promote the transfer of learning.





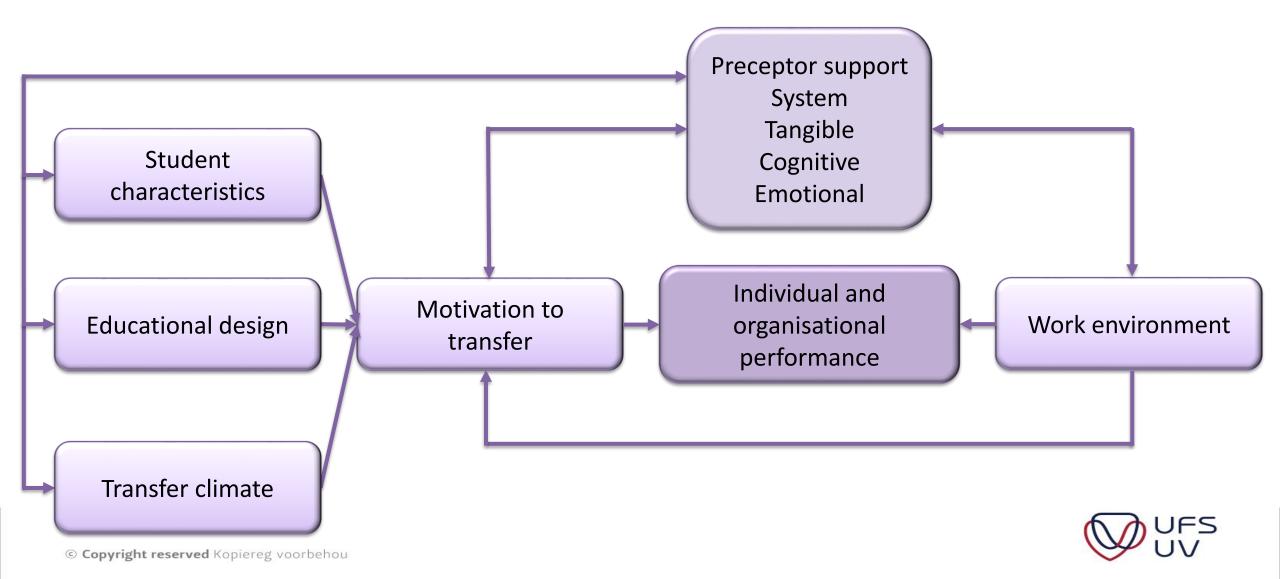
#### THE PRECEPTOR

"A preceptor is a compassionate nurse expert who develops a one-to-one time limited relationship with a novice in a clinical setting, provides support, facilitates thinking processes, and assesses competence in order to promote metacognition and care that is based on the best available evidence" (Botma 2014)



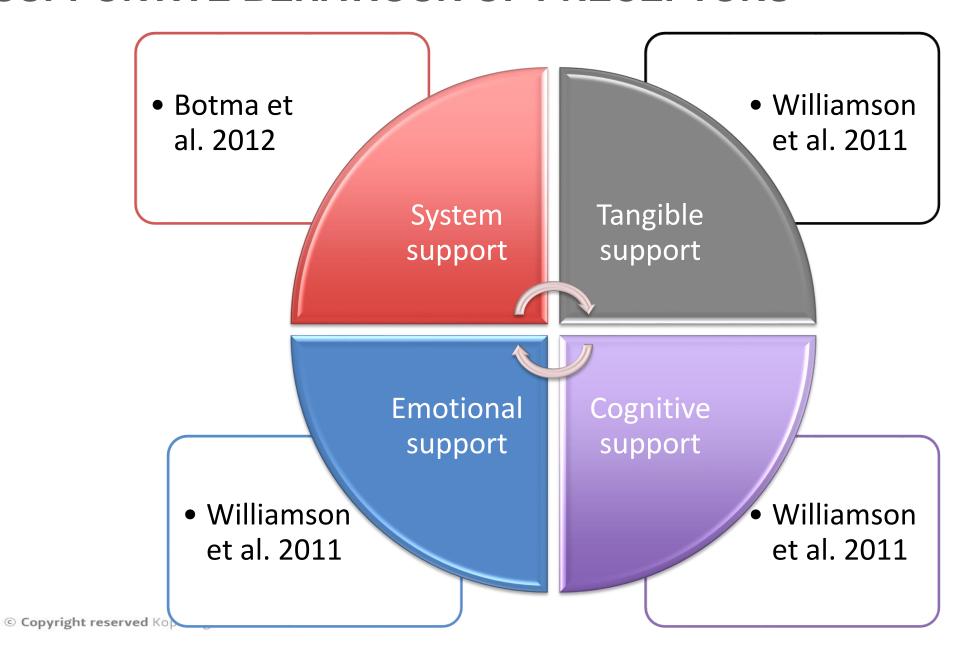


# THE ROLE OF THE PRECEPTOR IN TRANSFER OF LEARNING



### SUPPORTIVE BEHAVIOUR OF PRECEPTORS







#### **SYSTEM SUPPORT**

- Liaise information with HEI and clinical facility
- Negotiate student needs with clinicians
- Collaborate with interprofessional team
- Create positive learning environment
- Be professional

System support



### **TANGIBLE SUPPORT**





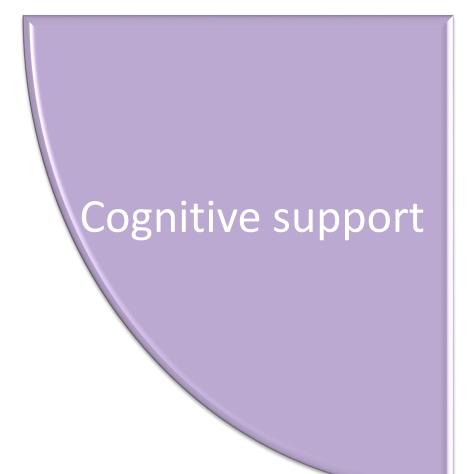
- Orientate
- Voice expectations
- Negotiate outcomes
- Plan/create learning opportunities



#### **COGNITIVE SUPPORT**



- Think critically
- Reason clinically
- Judge clinically
- Reflect on action
- Apply facilitation techniques
- Develop self-directed learning





#### **EMOTIONAL SUPPORT**



## Emotional support

- Encourage students
- Be approachable
- Show interest
- Pay individual attention
- Prepare student
- know student by name
- Build confidence



### **PURPOSE OF THE STUDY**



To describe the support offered by preceptors to undergraduate nursing students.





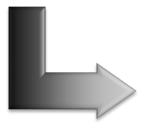




# METHODOLOGICAL STUDY



Descriptive design



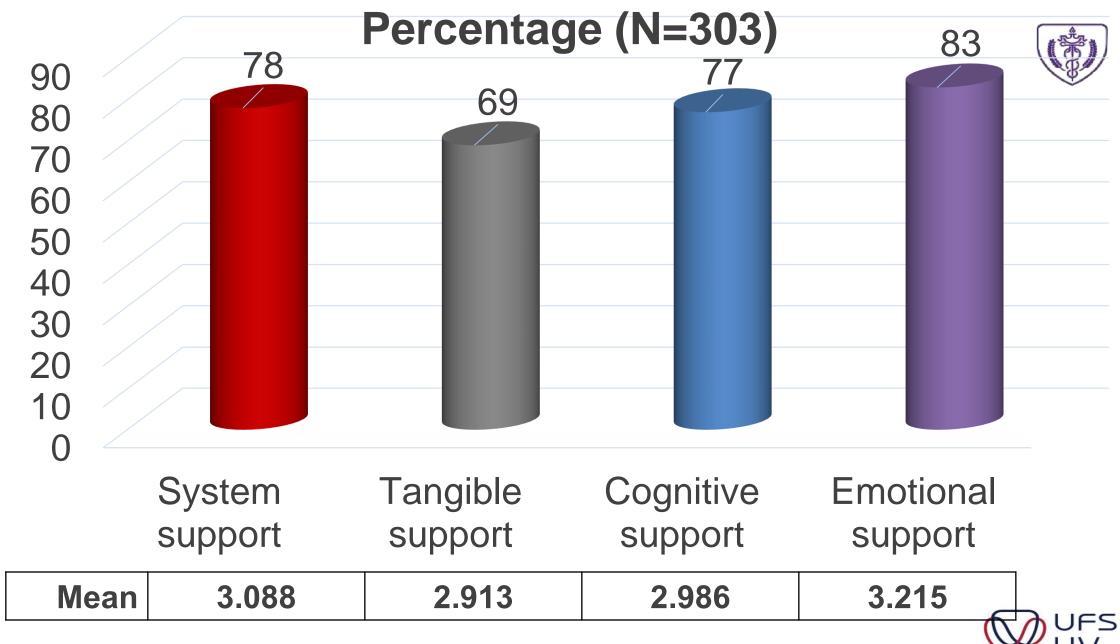
Self-administered questionnaire

4 point Likert scale



192 undergraduate students

Completed 2 consecutive months



### CONCLUSION



Students need comprehensive support to become competent practitioners.

Cognitive support is pivotal in developing students' ability to make sound clinical judgement.

Training needs of preceptors regarding cognitive support were identified as a priority.

Quality of preceptorship was measured and findings suggest there is room for improvement.

#### REFERENCE LIST

Botma, Y., 2014. Re-purposing preceptorship in nursing education. Forum for Professional Nurse Leaders and Annual Nursing Education Association Conference, Kempton Park, South Africa, 25-27 June 2014.

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