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| Update to the Best Practice Clinical Learning Environment 2023 |
| Measures introduced 2023OFFICIAL |

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| Contents[History of the BPCLE 3](#_Toc167888346)[BPCLE Framework 3](#_Toc167888347)[BPCLE Review 4](#_Toc167888348)[Changes to the BPCLE Indicators 4](#_Toc167888349)[BPCLE Measures 5](#_Toc167888350)[Definitions 5](#_Toc167888351)[Element 1. An organisational culture that values learning. 6](#_Toc167888352)[Element 2. Best practice clinical practice 6](#_Toc167888353)[Element 3. A positive learning environment 6](#_Toc167888354)[Element 4. An effective health service – education provider relationship 8](#_Toc167888355)[Element 5. Effective communication processes 8](#_Toc167888356) |

In 2022-23, the Department undertook a comprehensive review of the Best Practice Clinical Learning Environments (BPCLE) project, in consultation with health services. As a result, the BPCLE data collection will be simplified. The BPCLE Framework Indicator Specifications is replaced by a series of Measures, specified in this document.

The new measures will be introduced in a staged approach, but these changes will impact the reporting period of 2024, due in February 2025. This is an interim document, that contains the new measures for all health services participating in BPCLE, including those that will be required for the 2024 collection period. Further detail about the new measures will be released ahead of the 2025 BPCLE data collection.

# History of the BPCLE

In May 2008, the Victorian Department of Health (the Department) commissioned the BPCLE project. The primary objective was to develop a framework that would underpin consistency and excellence in clinical education and training across the state. This was part of a comprehensive strategy developed by the Department aimed at enhancing the capacity and quality of clinical education in medicine, nursing and allied health in Victoria.

The framework that was developed – based on data collected from hospitals, learners and university educators through case studies, surveys and interviews – was subsequently modified following consultation with stakeholders across the whole spectrum of health professional disciplines and health service settings. Two further projects added a resource kit and performance monitoring framework to the BPCLE toolkit and the whole package was piloted in a range of health services in 2012. Finally, an online tool was developed to assist health services with implementation and the BPCLE Framework was published in 2016.

# BPCLE Framework

The BPCLE Framework is built around 6 essential elements that underpin a quality learning environment. Many of the elements overlap or are interrelated.

1. An organisational culture that values learning.
2. Best practice clinical practice
3. A positive learning environment
4. An effective health service – education provider relationship
5. Effective communication processes
6. Appropriate resources and facilities.

The new BPCLE Measures are intended to give an indication of a health service’s performance against these essential elements, as an indication of the quality of the teaching and learning environment provided for the future workforce.



Figure 1: BPCLE Elements

# BPCLE Review

The BPCLE review project was undertaken by the Department to evaluate the operation and effectiveness of the BPCLE project in achieving its aims to ensure that it:

* Remains fit for purpose.
* Is the most appropriate way to monitor the quality of the learner experience.

In late 2022 an advisory group was established with nominated health service representatives to provide advice on the design and delivery of the BPCLE review, and to provide technical and practical advice to enable the effective establishment and implementation of the review.

# Changes to the BPCLE Indicators

One of the recommendations of the review was that the department cease the use of the current BPCLE tool and replace it with a simpler data collection mechanism that maintains compliance with the BPLCE framework. The 55 BPCLE Indicators will be replaced with 24 simplified measures.

This document has the new measures that will be collected through the BPCLE project. To give health services time to adjust any internal reporting needs the initial collection of these measures due in February 2025 will only include the following measures for the 2023 period.

* 3(e) Learners felt safe at this organisation.
* 3(f) Learners had an overall sense of wellbeing while in this organisation.
* 3(g) Learners personally experienced bullying in this organisation.

The department will advise of a collection tool for the 2026 collection that will include all measures.

# BPCLE Measures

These new measures are being introduced in a staged way from 2023. Note that only three measures relating to Element 3 of the BPCLE Framework will be collected for 2024. These three questions will need to be included in the survey of learners to ensure that they are able to be reported. The other measures will be collected in February of 2026 for the 2025 calendar year, and the Department will advise on the data collection mechanism.

## Definitions

Measure # = Measure identifier (alphameric). The number relates to the Element of the BPCLE Framework that the measure is intended to assess.

Answered by = Answer is to be collected from this source.

* Health Service: Staff member nominated by health service.
* Learners: Survey of learners involved in clinical learning at health service

Measure to be collected = Question to be answered by health service. In the case of questions answered by learners, there is also a suggested wording for the survey of learners.

Metrics = Many of the questions for health services require a Yes / No response type or a %.
Learner responses should be collected on a Likert scale: Strongly Agree, Agree, Neutral, Disagree Strongly Disagree, and reported to the Department as the number of learners at each point on the scale.

### Element 1. An organisational culture that values learning.

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| Measure # | Answered by | Measure to be collected | Suggested wording for survey of learners | Metric | Notes |
| 1(a) | Health service | Education-related issues are explicitly addressed in the mission, vision and strategic documents (or equivalent) of the health service? |  | Yes/ No |   |
| 1(b) | Health service | Are all educational staff (FTE) dedicated to education responsibilities?If no, what % or educational FTE is deployed to non-educational responsibilities? |  | Yes/No% |  |
| 1(c)  | Learners | Learners feel they are valued by the organisation  | I felt valued by the organisation  | Likert scale |  |

### Element 2. Best practice clinical practice

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| Measure # | Answered by | Measure to be collected | Suggested wording for survey of learners | Metric | Notes |
| 2(b)  | Learners | Staff are willing to work with students.  | Staff are willing to work with students  | Likert scale |  |
| 2(c)  | Learners | Staff are positive role models.  | Staff are positive role models | Likert scale |  |
| 2(d)  | Health service | The organisation has systems and processes for updating clinical practice guidelines in response to new evidence |  | Yes/No |  |
| Element 3. A positive learning environment |
| Measure # | Answered by | Measure to be collected | Suggested wording for survey of learners | Metric | Notes |
| 3(a)  | Health service | There are clear and transparent protocols and guidelines in place for dealing with learners requiring additional support |  | Yes/No |  |
| 3(b)  | Health service | Orientation materials and/or activities are adapted to accommodate learners returning for subsequent placements at the health service  |  | Yes/No |  |
| 3(c)  | Learners | Learners would be likely to consider employment or ongoing employment at this organization based solely on their experience in the learning program | I am likely to consider employment or ongoing employment at this organization based solely on my experience in the learning program | Likert scale |  |
| 3(d)  | Learners | Learners are satisfied with respect to the welcome they received  | I was satisfied with the welcome they received on commencement at this organisation | Likert scale |  |
| 3(e)  | Learners | Learners felt safe at this organisation. | I felt safe at this organisation during my time on the learning program | Likert scale | * Measure to be collected 2025.
 |
| 3(f)  | Learners | Learners had an overall sense of wellbeing while in this organisation.  | I had an overall sense of wellbeing while at this organisation | Likert scale | * Measure to be collected 2025.
 |
| 3(g)  | Learners | Learners personally experienced bullying in this organisation. | I personally experienced bullying at this organisation. | Likert scale | * Measure to be collected 2025.
 |
| 3(h)  | Learners | Learners witnessed bullying of others in this organisation.  | I witnessed bullying of others in this organisation | Likert scale |  |
| 3(ia)  | Learners | Learners are fully orientated to the clinical or practice area. | I was fully orientated to the clinical or practice area on commencement at this organisation | Likert scale |  |
| 3(ib) | Leaners | Learners are provided with access to quality resources to support their induction.  | I was provided with access to quality resources to support my induction at this organisation  | Likert scale |  |
| 3(j)  | Learners | Learners felt adequately supervised/supported in the clinical environment.  | I was adequately supervised and supported in the clinical environment.  | Likert scale |  |
| 3(k)  | Learners | Learner’s report receiving regular and constructive feedback.  | I received regular and constructive feedback during my time at this organisation | Likert scale |   |
| 3(l)  | Learners | Learners felt they had opportunities to enhance their skills and knowledge.  | I had opportunities to enhance my skills and knowledge while at this organisation | Likert scale |  |
| 3(m)  | Learners | Learners reported that they opportunities to interact and learn with the multi-disciplinary team.  | I had opportunities to interact and learn with the multi-disciplinary team.  | Likert scale |  |
| 3(n)  | Learners | Did learner consider the learning experience a positive one  | I had a positive learning experience  | Likert scale |  |

### Element 4. An effective health service – education provider relationship

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| Measure # | Answered by | Measure to be collected | Suggested wording for survey of learners | Metric | Notes |
| 4(a)  | Learners | Learner’s report having up-to-date points of contact within the health service and within the education provider  | Learner’s report having up-to-date points of contact within the health service and within the education provider  | Likert scale |  |

### Element 5. Effective communication processes

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| Measure # | Answered by | Measure to be collected | Suggested wording for survey of learners | Metric | Notes |
| 5(a)  | Learners | Learners are aware of available mechanisms for resolving issues. | Learners are aware of available mechanisms for resolving issues. | Likert scale |  |
| 5(b) | Learners | If a learner had to resolve an issue how would the learner rate their experience in resolving the issue through internal mechanisms   | If a learner had to resolve an issue how would the learner rate their experience in resolving the issue through internal mechanisms  | Likert scale |  |

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