

## Daily organisation of a fertility unit

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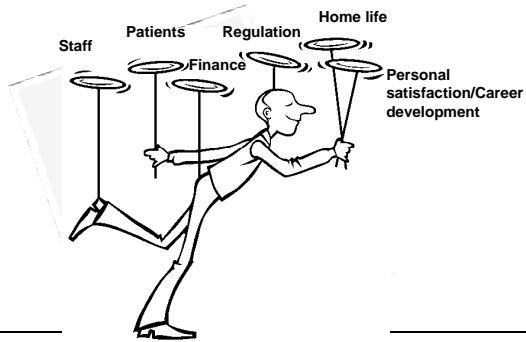
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## Juggling plates



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## Issues

- Unpredictability
- Staff absence
- Patient complaints

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## The Role of the Fertility Nurse

There is a wide variation in roles from 'handmaiden' to nurse specialist

This depends on the individual unit and the consultant in charge

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## The Nurses Role at MFS

Couples allocated an individual Nurse

She remains the main contact

She works within a team of nurses, clinicians, scientists and support personnel

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## Responsibilities

Give information to allow couples to make an informed decision.

Arrange, carry out and interpret investigations together with the clinicians.

Plan and implement treatment.

Offer support prior to, during and after treatment.

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## The extended role of the nurse at MFS

- Ultra sound scanning
- Intra Uterine Insemination
- Embryo transfers
- Tubal patency testing
- Egg collections
- Testicular biopsies
- Hypnotic relaxation

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## Nurse led clinics or Consultant led clinics?

- Nurse as prime carer adds flexibility and delivery of cost effective treatment
- For the nurse it allows development of their role and increases job satisfaction
- For the couple it offers the continuity of care that is available throughout their contact with the unit which may be over a period of several years

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- Clinicians add expertise and diagnostic experience
- They are able to draw in experience from areas other than infertility.
- Some couples have the expectation that a Doctor will deliver most of their care and therefore feel more confident with this approach

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- Ideal is a combination of both allowing the delivery of holistic care
- The effective partnership of both together with counsellors and other support agencies will maximise the care and success for couples seeking assisted conception

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### Why MFS utilises nurses as the main care provider

- Development of rapport on a one to one basis
- Information can be complex and is understood better on a one to one basis
- Individual relationship with nurse reduces stress levels

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- Couples feel comfortable asking questions
- Nurses have the time to spend with couples and can pick up other underlying problems
- Many couple remain in contact through out their pregnancy and ring for advice

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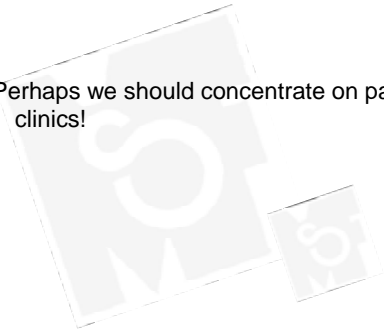
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## The future

Perhaps we should concentrate on patient led clinics!



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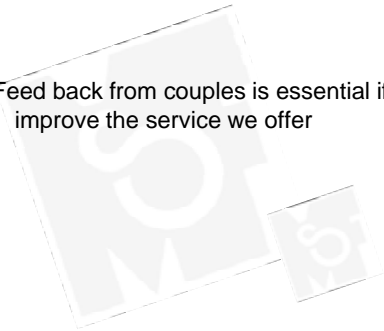
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## Importance of Quality

Feed back from couples is essential if we are to improve the service we offer



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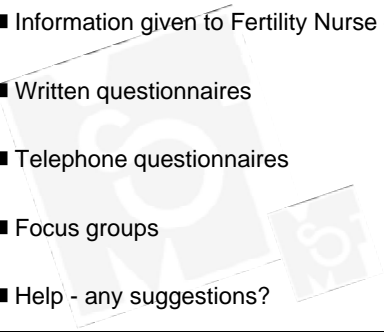
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## How do we get information?

- Information given to Fertility Nurse directly
- Written questionnaires
- Telephone questionnaires
- Focus groups
- Help - any suggestions?



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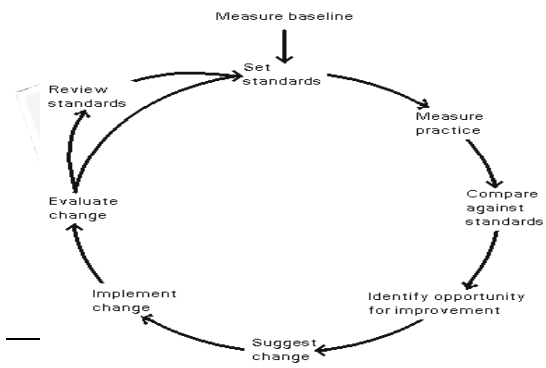
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## 8. Audit and feedback



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Thank You - Any Questions



Midland Fertility Services

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