What do the public and doctors think about good professional practice – Mind the gap!

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Why talk about good professional practice?
Public Trust in Professions
For each different type of people, would you tell me whether you generally trust them to tell the truth or not (% “trust to tell the truth”, 2011-2013)?
Reasons for that Trust
Views of the Public

*In relation to the doctor you attend most often how confident would you be that ... (very confident and fairly confident combined, 2013)?*

- My doctor effectively communicates to me about all aspects of my personal health: 89%
- My doctor explains diagnosis and treatment in a way that I can understand: 90%
- My doctor listens to me and takes me seriously: 91%
- My doctor gives me as much time and attention as any other patient: 90%
Views of the Public

*In relation to the doctor you attend most often how confident would you be that ... (very confident and fairly confident combined, 2013)?*
Views of the Medical Profession

*Doctors should fully inform all patients of the benefits and risks of a procedure or course of treatment*
Views of the Public

**In relation to the doctor you attend most often how confident would you be that your doctor safeguards the confidentiality of your personal information (2013)?**
Views of the Medical Profession

*Doctors should never disclose confidential health information to an unauthorised individual (% completely agree)*

Ireland: 93%
UK: 96%
Areas where opinions may differ
Views of the Public

In relation to the doctor you attend most often how confident would you be that your doctor would tell you if there had been a mistake/oversight during the course of your care?

- Very Confident: 48%
- Fairly Confident: 29%
Views of the Medical Profession

Reported attitudes and practices regarding disclosure following adverse events (completely agree %)

Doctors should disclose all significant medical errors to patients who have been affected (completely agree %)

- Ireland: 63%
- UK: 70%

Have you not fully disclosed a mistake to a patient because you were afraid of being sued? (% replying never)

- Ireland: 13%
- UK: 85%
Views of the Public

In relation to the doctor you attend most often how confident would you be that ... (very confident and fairly confident combined, 2013)?

- My doctor would report any concerns about the protection and welfare of a child to the appropriate authorities: 89%
- My doctor would report any problems affecting his/her ability to treat patients to his/her employer: 72%
- My doctor would report any concerns about another doctor to appropriate authorities: 71%
Views of the Medical Profession

To what extent do you agree or disagree that doctors should report all instances of significantly impaired or incompetent colleagues to relevant authorities (completely agree %)?

![Bar Chart]

- Ireland: 50%
- UK: 59%
Views of the Public

“It is important that all doctors are assessed from time to time to ensure they are practising medicine to a high standard.”
Views of the Medical Profession

To what extent do you agree or disagree that … (completely agree %)?

- Doctors should undergo periodic recertification
  - Ireland: 23%
  - UK: 25%

- Doctors should peer review the quality of care provided by colleagues
  - Ireland: 42%
  - UK: 68%
Next Steps
Comhairle na nDochtúirí Leighis
Medical Council

- Develop an effective & efficient register that is responsive to needs of public & medical profession
- Create a supportive learning environment to enable good professional practice
- Maintain confidence by developing a proportionate and targeted approach to regulatory activities
- Build an organisational culture that supports leadership & learning
- Enhance patient safety through research & greater engagement
- Providing leadership to doctors in enhancing good professional practice in the interests of patient safety
- Ensuring high standards of education, training and practice among doctors for the benefit of patients
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Any Questions?