

Promoting Autonomy in the Clinical Environment

FacDev in 5 KEY TAKEAWAYS



Watch the FacDev in 5 Video
featuring Dr. Nicole Christian,
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tinyurl.com/FD5-ClinAutonomy

KEY TAKEAWAYS



Tips to maximize autonomy and supervision.

1

Get to Know Your Learner

Ask about past experiences, goals, and gaps to tailor your support from the start.

2

Gradually Loosen the Reins

As skills grow, offer more responsibility—start close, then step back as confidence builds.

3

Let Them Take the Lead

Have learners explain decisions to build ownership and gauge their need for supervision.

4

Supervise from a Distance when Ready

Step back as competence grows, but stay flexible and ready to step in when challenges arise.



DIVE DEEPER

Allen M., et al. The educational role of autonomy in medical training: A scoping review (J Surg Res 2019).

Burgis J.C., et al. Resident perceptions of autonomy in a complex tertiary care environment improve when supervised by hospitalists (Hosp Pediatr 2012).

Carbo A.R., Huang G.C. Promoting clinical autonomy in medical learners (Clin Teach 2019).

