

## **The importance of anatomical principles for teaching clinical skills**

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A sound knowledge of anatomical principles is key for examining patients, making a diagnosis and performing clinical procedures. Clinical procedures which students are expected to know how to perform before graduation are: venepuncture, inserting an IV catheter, arterial puncture, thoracentesis, lumbar puncture, inserting a nasogastric tube, inserting a urinary catheter, and suturing lacerations. This requires a good understanding of layers traversed and anatomical structures endangered during a particular procedure. Anatomedia is an innovative, interactive online tool for learning and teaching anatomy. It is a valuable resource for undergraduate students, postgraduate students, teachers and practitioners. It may also be used in patient education and as a consultation tool (eg. for informed consent on surgical procedures or radiological investigations). Revisiting anatomy is useful for both medical students and teachers, as it increases an understanding of potential risks, as well as confidence in executing clinical procedures.