**BSc Surgery and Anaesthesia 2012-2013**

**Report of Human Performance Practical Session**

**General feedback**

Overall, these reports were well presented and well written. The writing style was generally good however in some cases the style needs to be more scientific and less personal.

Students adhered to the guidelines well; the 2-page limit was exceeded by some students and this was probably due to confusing advice about the references being included in the 2-page limit. Even though it was mostly only with references, this would not be accepted if submitted for a conference.

Generally, the layouts of the reports were good but be aware of axis labels and titles that go outside the borders of the Figure. This can make the figures difficult to read, and in some cases illegible.

Most students provided a consistent argument throughout their reports, however in some cases data were presented that were not discussed and did not contribute to answering the hypothesis. This can confuse the reader, and makes it more difficult to put across your main findings.

**Introduction**

Most students were able to place their question in context with some literature and provide clinical relevance. However a number of students did not provide a clear aim/hypothesis. This is important and is very helpful in structuring your report, and to ensure consistency.

**Methods**

In general, the methods were described clearly, however very few students described the statistical methods they had used.

**Results**

Common errors in the results section were that Figures and Tables were not referred to in the text. **All** Figs/Tables should have a title (e.g. Fig. 1. Or Table 1) and should **all** be referred to in the text. Some students did not label axis at all, and others omitted units of measurement. All of these details are required. Mostly, scatter plots were presented, but in some cases bar charts may have been more appropriate. Think about the different ways the data can be presented, and select the way that demonstrates your argument most clearly. Be clear about the statistics you are using and what exactly the result is telling you.

**Discussion**

Your discussion should begin with a summary of the results; only a few students did this. While all students discussed the limitations of the techniques used, a number of students did not attempt to actually interpret the data they had presented, or to place it in context with current literature. It is very important to develop a depth of understanding in your data. Future recommendations should also be provided, and most students did this.