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Surgical care practitioners: regulation and revalidation: a discussion - J Quick and S Hall
The regulation of healthcare professionals is far from new. It continues to evolve, responsive to changes in the professional workforce and the needs of society. Surgical care practitioners belong to an emerging professional group. The nature of their work makes it imperative that robust regulatory mechanisms are put in place and supported by a personal commitment to local and national standards of continuing professional development. This article discusses the issues involved.

228 CLINICAL FEATURE
Improved patient education facilitates adherence to preoperative fasting guidelines - PG Kyrtatos, N Constantindou, S Loizides and T Muntaz
Preoperative fasting is recognised as an important factor in perioperative patient care. Implementation of guidelines on preoperative fasting remains sub-optimal. The authors audited perioperative fasting in a district general hospital, implemented changes to the preoperative information leaflet and improved fasting practices. The manner in which information is presented to patients impacts behavior and adherence to recommendations. Improving this domain of clinical practice requires thorough and conscious effort and repeated reassessment.

235 NOTABLE OPERATIONS FROM THE PAST
The first resection of an aortic aneurysm - Professor Harold Ellis
Turning the pages of old medical journals and ancient surgical textbooks, tucked away on the top shelves of the library you will come across fascinating accounts of surgical operations. This series recounts some of the author’s favourite ‘operations from the past’.

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