

# Exploring the influence of contextual factors of the clinical encounter on clinical reasoning success : (unraveling context specificity)

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Propositions accompanying the thesis

**Exploring the Influence of Contextual Factors of the  
Clinical Encounter on Clinical Reasoning Success  
(Unraveling context specificity)**

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9 September 2011

1. The clinical context influences how expert physicians in internal medicine decide and act (*This dissertation*).
2. The context of a medical encounter is more than a static physical location or additional information surrounding the presenting complaint (*This dissertation*).
3. The outcome of a clinical encounter can be nonlinear (*This dissertation*).
4. Expertise is more akin to a “state” than a “trait” (*This dissertation*).
5. fMRI findings inform cognitive psychology theories (*This dissertation*).
6. Successful physicians make fewer mistakes (*Sir William Osler*).
7. Expertise in clinical reasoning is important for high quality care for complicated patients in internal medicine practice.
8. Medicine is learned at the bedside (*Sir William Osler*).
9. A medical educator can take care of far more patients during his/her career than a private practitioner.
10. For every complex problem there is a solution that is concise, clear, simple, and wrong (*Henry Louis Mencken*).
11. Theory is a glue that unites the body of thoughts in a study.