

Working in a difficult context

Prof Bernhard Gaede
HOD: Family Medicine, UKZN



What are we doing?

Teaching lots of biomedicine

- *Still dominance of 'medicine'*
- *Biomedicine 'separate' from context and*

Bio-psycho-social

- *More holistic model*
- *Aims to make interventions more context sensitive*
- *Still individualistic approach*

Self care

- *Recognition of need for resilience*
- *'Us' and 'them'*

Focus on health systems

- *Context of care delivery*
- *'I – We – It' as lens for management*
- *COPC, QIP*
- *Always in crisis Sense of always falling behind...*

Ecological model of thinking



What could we do differently?

Expand our vision:

Capacity around complexity

- *non-linear, interrelated dynamics*
- *Health as complex system beyond biomedicine*

Strengthen generalism and person-centeredness

- *Seeing the connections, interrelationships, and skill at working across domains*

Focus on scales, sites and linkages of assessments and interventions

- *From intracellular to global environment*
- *Interventions across domains*
- *Include 'self' as site of intervention*

Work in systems and with system tools

- *Points of leverage for interventions*
- *System tools to manage complexity*