

# Technical competence

The heavy emphasis placed by all [trainees](#) on excellent [technical skills](#) as crucial to their identity is supported by several reports in the [literature](#) that have found that technical [competence](#) can be a strong enabler of the development of [decision making](#), [accountability](#), and [learning](#) to think and feel as a surgeon i.e. constructing self-identity <sup>1) 2)</sup>.

1)

Bucher R, Stelling JG. Becoming professional. Beverly Hills (CA): Sage Publishing; 1977.

2)

Jarvis-Selinger S, Pratt DD, Regehr G. Competency is not enough: integrating identity formation into the medical education discourse. Acad Med 2012; 87:1185-90

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