Table 4. Fifteen suggestions for effective feedback.9

Nature of the desired action

- 1. Recommend actions that are consistent with established goals and priorities
- 2. Recommend actions that can improve and are under the recipient's control
- 3. Recommend specific actions

Nature of the data available for feedback

- 4. Provide multiple instances of feedback
- 5. Provide feedback as soon as possible and at a frequency informed by the number of new patient cases
- 6. Provide individual (e.g. practitioner specific) rather than general data
- 7. Choose comparators that reinforce desired behaviour

Feedback display

- 8. Closely link the visual display and summary message
- 9. Provide feedback in more than one way
- 10. Minimize extraneous cognitive load for feedback recipients

Delivering the feedback intervention

- 11. Address barriers to feedback use
- 12. Provide short, actionable messages followed by optional detail
- 13. Address credibility of the information
- 14. Prevent defensive reactions to feedback
- 15. Construct feedback through social interaction