

# **hello** my name is...  
☺

**Avril Ormond**

Physiotherapy Practice Learning Lead

One team shared values



# Improving Practice Education for Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy Students at University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust (UHL)

Avril Ormond

&

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(Occupational Therapy Practice Learning Lead)

One team shared values



# Background

- 3 acute hospitals
- Over 350 therapy staff
- Teaching hospitals
- Practice Learning Leads introduced April 2016
- Quality & Capacity
- Service evaluation - baseline



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# Aims

- To establish the number of student placement offers per academic year for physiotherapy and occupational therapy.
- To identify the potential barriers to offering student placements.
- To identify scope for increasing student placement offers.

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# Methodology

- Retrospective data: 2 academic years
- Databases:
  - Occupational therapy student database
  - Physiotherapy student database
  - Occupational therapy practice educator database
  - Physiotherapy practice educator database
- Practice educator questionnaire and forums.

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# Results

## Physiotherapy Placement offers

Academic Year		Total
2015-2016	Offered	110
	Used	82
	Unused	28
2014-2015	Offered	125
	Used	109
	Unused	16

98 Practice educators

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## Occupational Therapy Placement offers

Academic Year		Total
2015-2016	Offered	34
	Used	23
	Unused	11
2014-2015	Offered	23
	Used	21
	Unused	2

61 Practice educators



# Results - Barriers

Generic	Physiotherapy	Occupational therapy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness of additional learning needs prior to placement</li> <li>• Speciality specific pre-placement resources</li> <li>• Contacting universities – failing students</li> <li>• Part time placements</li> <li>• Lack of student preparation</li> <li>• Access to iPads/computers</li> <li>• Team resources and time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Late placement allocations</li> <li>• Space in outpatient clinics</li> <li>• No access to electronic clinical educator handbook</li> <li>• Late changes to placement allocations</li> <li>• Late allocation of visiting tutor</li> <li>• Few educator updates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Car drivers preferred (community)</li> <li>• Differences in university paperwork</li> <li>• Limited module information available</li> <li>• Professionalism</li> <li>• Long placements</li> </ul>

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## Next steps

- Quality development projects
- Collaboration with HEIs
- Practice educator training and updates
- Introduction of a student placement policy
- Ongoing monitoring and support from PLLs

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Practice Learning  
Team

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