

The ROYAL MARSDEN

Community Services

Exploration of the Placement of Pre-registration Paramedic Students within Wider Community Services

Jane Hopping, Community Lecturer Practitioner

Steve Cowland, Senior Lecturer



NHS

What did we do?

-
- Collaboration working between Sutton Community Health Services and Kingston University and St Georges University of London
 - Facilitated pre-registration paramedic student placements within community services



Objectives

-
- Clinical Placements are essential for the education of Pre-Registration Paramedics
 - Looking beyond traditional placement settings
 - Develop a clear understanding of the multi-professional teams available in community settings, to build on and support multidisciplinary working amongst community health staff
 - To enhance the experience of paramedic students
 - To facilitate the acquisition of shared nursing skills required for working within the community setting as a paramedic



Why is this important?

-
- Contribute to developing autonomous, patient centred practitioners
 - Prevention of admission – shift of government policy towards community settings
 - Improve working relationships



Pilot

-
- 2 week placement in Sutton Community Health Services
 - Eight pre-registration paramedic students
 - First day of placement induction provided to introduce community services, its background, ethos, partners and provider services
 - Rotation timetable was provided to the students detailing their 2 week placement incorporating allocated time with district nursing teams, specialist nursing and unplanned care services



Pilot Feedback

-
- Gained through feedback form provided to students, and discussions with teams who facilitated the placement



Pilot findings - Student

-
- 5 students reported knowledge of referral pathways as beneficial to their experience
 - All the students felt the knowledge of what their course objectives involved and what the role of a trained paramedic was poor amongst community staff
 - Students valued the opportunity for inter professional networking
 - 1 student would like to have time with a Practice Nurse included on the placement



Pilot findings - Staff

-
- willing and eager to learn and very professional in their presentation
 - liked the timetable being prepared prior to placement so they were clear which student was coming to their team on any given day during the placement
 - community nurses did feel that their knowledge of the paramedic training was very poor and requested this be addressed if Paramedic students were to be placed with them again



Lessons learned from Pilot

-
- Students paramedics became more aware of services that they did not know even existed
 - Staff knowledge of Paramedic training and Paramedic Role needs to be increased
 - Time spent with community nursing team can be reduced expanding placement experience to other areas of community e.g. GP practice, Nursing Home, Musculoskeletal services, Children's Services
 - If the placement experience is expanded to include Children's Services a larger number of Paramedic students could be accommodated



Next Phase

-
- 2 week rotation placement
 - 38 Students



What we did differently

- Rotation areas incorporated: district nursing teams, unplanned care, podiatry, respiratory specialist nurse, practice nursing, Older persons assessment centre, MSK outpatients, School Nursing, Health visiting, Falls service, care home liaison team, Referral centre, Heart failure nurse specialists, Respite care home, out of hours service, tissue viability nurse specialists and diabetes nurse specialists
- Induction session provided prior to placement starting
- Training session provided to staff facilitating placements to ensure they better understood the requirements of the paramedic students



	WEEK ONE				
	Monday 6th November	Tuesday 7th November	Wednesday 8th November	Thursday 9th November	Friday 10th November
1	Nursing Sutton & Cheam Locality	Community Nursing Sutton & Cheam Locality	Unplanned Care CPAT, Robin Hood Lane 1st Floor 9.00	OPARS	Practice Nurse
2	Nursing Sutton & Cheam Locality	Community Nursing Sutton & Cheam Locality	Unplanned Intermediate Care	Unplanned Care CPAT	OPARS
3	Nursing Sutton & Cheam Locality	Community Nursing Sutton & Cheam Locality	SWOOP	Unplanned Intermediate Care	Unplanned Care CPAT
	Community			SWOOP St	Unplanned



WEEK TWO					
	Monday 13th November	Tuesday 14th November	Wednesday 15th November	Thursday 16th November	Friday 17th November
1	Community Nursing Sutton & Cheam Locality	Nursing Sutton & Cheam Locality	MDT Facilitator	MSK Outpatients	SWOOP
2	Podiatry	Nursing Sutton & Cheam Locality	Health Visiting	Practice Nurse	Community Nursing Sutton & Cheam Locality
3	Community Nursing Sutton & Cheam Locality	Nursing Sutton & Cheam Locality	Heart Failure	Health Visiting	Tissue Viability
		Community			



Feedback

-
- Electronic Surveys sent to both students and staff



Findings - Student Feedback

What was positive about the placement?

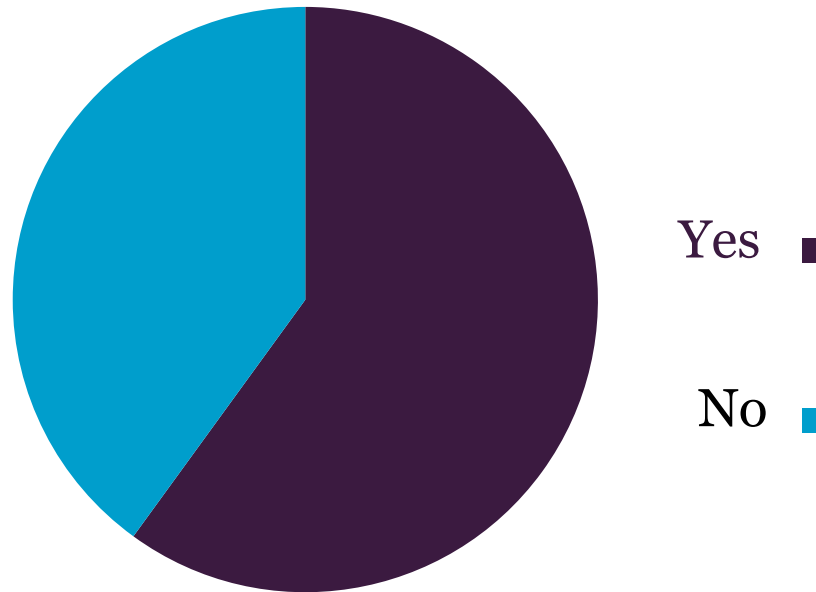
*Seeing how the
community teams
work*

*Working alongside all
departments within
community care
setting*

*friendly staff who
were prepared for us*



Will you be able to use the knowledge gained from this placement in other care settings?



How could we have improved your placement?

Allowed us to be more hands on

More time in clinics as this held more benefit for use in terms of transferable skills

Better communication with staff on why we are joining them for placement and what our scope or practice is



Findings - Staff Feedback

What was most positive about facilitating student paramedics on placement

Good MDT working

Being able to provide them with a variety of community nursing experiences and also learning about the role of the paramedic

giving them an insight into something new

shared knowledge and sharing how community services interact and share resources



Was there anything that could have improved your experience in facilitating the placements?

Students need longer here and to get more involved in the team to support completing the PAD

more than one day rotation as each only got a snapshot of general practice



What these results mean?

-
- Overall placements were well received and seen as being beneficial to learning
 - Some of the students however did not understand the benefit of this learning in practice
 - More time needs to be spent preparing the facilitators for the placement
 - Times spent in placement areas need to be reviewed



Next Steps

– Further placements planned for Autumn 2018

These placements will:

- Induction programme will be repeated for paramedic students, but will have a heavier emphasis on how the experiences can be applied to their future practice
- More structured teaching to be provided to staff in how to facilitate the students in practice and their learning requirements
- Continue to offer a wide range of placement areas on a rotation basis, however to extend the time spent in one area to two days, rather than one



Questions????



Contact details

Jane Hopping

jane.hopping@rmh.nhs.uk

Mob 07919300965

Steve Cowland

Steve.Cowland@sgul.kingston.ac.uk

