



Bradford District Care
NHS Foundation Trust

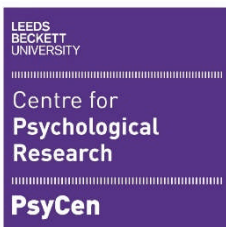


Telehealth Student Placements in Speech and Language Therapy Practice

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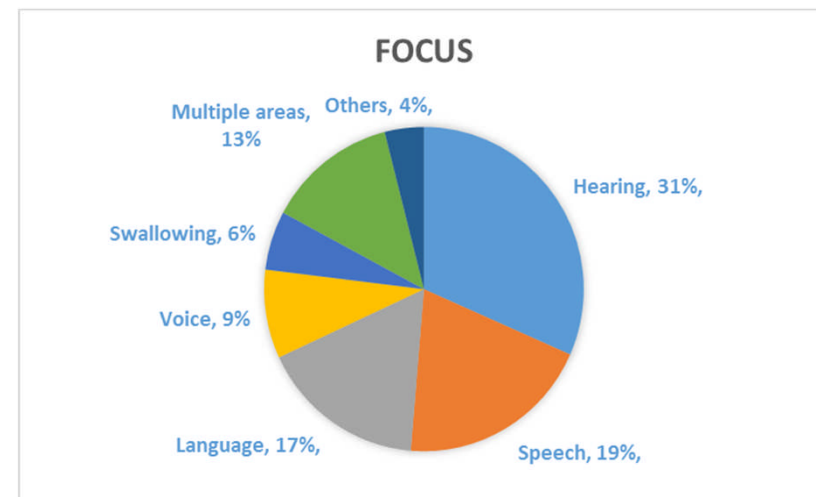
Where we started?

Emerging international evidence base and profile for telehealth in SLT

Agreement and guidelines from SLT professional bodies in UK (RCSLT), USA (ASHA), Australia (SPA)



Systematic review of 103 SLT and Audiology telehealth papers (Molini-Avejonas et al. 2015)



Systematic review: Telehealth in SLT & Audiology

(Molini-Avejonas et al. 2015)

Positives

- Increased access
- Reduced costs
- No negative impact
- Most studies (85%) conclude that telehealth has advantages over the non-telehealth alternatives

Potential barriers

- Technology
- Training
- Regulation
- Acceptance & recognition of benefits



Local experiences: Evaluation of telehealth for people who stammer



theguardian
Public Service
Awards 2017



Placement landscape changing

- NHS / independent landscape
- NHS digital agenda
- Innovative trust
- Forward thinking students

Drivers

LBU drivers

- Onsite clinical activity
- Develop graduate employability

Shared drivers:

- Increase placement capacity / offers
- Develop research partnerships
- Increase digital literacy

BDCFT drivers

- Reduce staff travel time
- Decrease waiting lists
- Increase client satisfaction

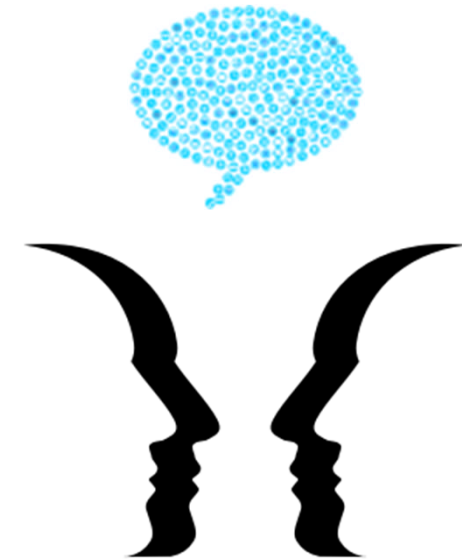
Student SLT telehealth placements models

Project 1: Year 1 conversation partners via telehealth (Skype)

Project 2: Year 2 scoping telehealth with clients and nursing home staff

Project 1: Y1 Skype Telehealth with Conversation Partners

- 4 people with aphasia
- 13 students (2 academic years)
- 3 clients completed all sessions
- 1 client withdrew



Clients' views

I found it works well as an online face to face session.

Of course it will not be as good as having a therapist sitting with you but it is still beneficial as you could have more online sessions to the actual therapist visiting once a week or so?

If the skype facility was available shortly after I lost my speech I know it would have helped me a lot.

Students' views

When all aspects (eg internet and emails) worked correctly, the conversation seemed just as effective as being face to face.

The opportunity never got cancelled due to weather or travel restriction

I saved money and time not having to travel to someone's house to do the placement.

Yes, I would recommend this placement to others.

Skype should definitely be used in the future

Project 2: Collaboration between Leeds Beckett University SLT Team and Bradford District Care Foundation Trust

Joint Aim:

Both sites seek to develop telehealth services

2018 – Developed a joint policy for student telehealth sessions at LBU for Bradford clients

Pilot: 1 client with aphasia – 1 session with Y3 student

Telehealth project: student placement 2019



2 x Y2 Students on 5 week block placement

AIM: Scope whether telehealth is a viable method of service delivery in Bradford

Elements:

1. Interviewed nursing home staff about use of telehealth
2. Gathered patient perspectives on telehealth from a group of patients with Parkinson's disease in a group

Outcomes

From nursing home discussions:

- Barriers around technology
- Funding issues
- Staff capacity, training, responsibility

From client perspectives:

- Engagement was difficult
- Further scoping needed

Benefits from students perspectives

- Appreciated opportunity that the project offered
- Understood wider aspects of SLT role
- Well rounded experience
- Developed understanding of research skills
- Great opportunity to talk to nursing home staff
- Demanding and required initiative
- Liked having a tick list for mini goals

Learning from BDFCT perspective

- Worked well as a peer placement
- Setting up time consuming, in place for future
- Momentum for future projects on placements
- Considerations – interpreters, motivation,
- Need more scoping, further pilots, this is just the beginning

Learning from LBU perspectives

- Added to placement capacity
- Inspired other educators to offer project based placements
- Start of the scoping process as part of larger research project
- Students developed additional employability skills

Development of the telehealth project

- Ethics process was difficult
- Need a platform – skype?
- good potential but practical difficulties
- Lots to do....

Next steps.....

If bid successful - £5k grant from Translate, for Proof of Market

BDCFT:

- Patient and Public Involvement interviews and focus groups of SLTs and wider variety of client groups in BDCFT
- Examine barriers to Telehealth and how these can be overcome
- Development of sound technology/evaluation of current Apps

Leeds Beckett University:

- Skype for Business roll out to all students (September 2019)
- Continue with Conversation Partners telehealth placements
- Explore further telehealth placement options with stakeholders