Large scale simulated placement for BSc and MSc physio students: consideration of sustainability.

Background: Practice placements are an essential part of physiotherapy education, providing students with the opportunity to gain practical experience in clinical settings.

Clinical situations: The scenarios reflected the diverse society in which we live, with actors taking on roles of patients/relatives and colleagues, from a range of backgrounds, with differing demographics and characteristics, presenting in a broad range of situations.

The students rated the following scenarios the highest:
- Professionalism
- Phone and face to face comms
- Compassion
- SBAR
- Open respectful comms (gender)
- Supporting colleagues
- Every contact counts
- DNAR
- Triangles of conversation
- Alcohol addiction
- Candour
- De escalation
- Complaints process and PALS
- Speaking up
- Apology
- Inappropriate behaviours
- Giving and receiving feedback

Logistics: Both groups (BSc and MSc) worked through 10 scenarios. The larger BSc group required 20 separate facilitated sessions and 40 actors. For the MSc group, there were 5 facilitated sessions and 10 actors.

Feedback and debriefing process:
1. Reflections from participant
2. Feedback from actors in role in neutral
3. Feedback from observing participants
4. Feedback from facilitator

Results: The simulated placement, for both sets of students, was a resounding success.
In an established curation of feedback through pre and post evaluation, the key findings of this highly replicable placement were:
- Valuable scenarios, based translated from practice
- Opportunities for rehearsal and re-rehearsal
- Safe practice environment

Overcoming challenges:
- Continued co-production
- Reuse scenarios and rotations
- Guidance for HEI facilitators

Challenges:
- Planning rotations
- Write matched scenarios
- Delivery skills
- Creating supportive environment

HEE funding was used to support SimComm Academy for these simulated placements.