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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.

Limited placements (HEE 2020)

Simulated placements valuable (Rossiter et al 2023)

Co-produced
placement
(HEI and simulationbased education
provider) for
75 BSc and 24 MSc
pre-registration
physiotherapy
students

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.



Description: Each student was provided with 30 simulated placement hours over one week, this was divided between hands on facilitated simulation, with follow-up synthesis and reflection of the learning outcomes. The facilitated sessions with actor role players centred around authentic scenarios which were level-matched and closely aligned with the HCPC Physiotherapy Standards of Proficiency (2018).

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.

Challenges

Planning rotations
Write matched scenarios
Delivery skills
Creating supportive environment

Overcoming challenges

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

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

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

Feedback and debriefing process 1. Reflections from participant

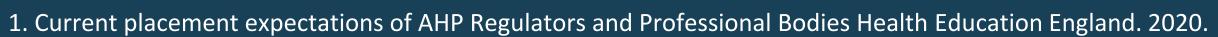
2. Feedback from actors in role in neutral

3. Feedback from observing participants

4. Feedback from facilitator







2. Rossiter L, Turk R, Judd B, Brentnall J, Grimmett C, Cowley E, et al. Preparing allied health students for placement: a contrast of learning modalities for foundational skill development. BMC Medical Education. 2023 Mar 15;23(1).

3. https://www.hcpc-uk.org/standards/standards-of-proficiency/physiotherapists/