

components were cohesive. Full support and creative input was required from the simulation technicians to ensure the activity's success.

Findings: Students fed back that they enjoyed the activity and were observed to work effectively together and prioritize and delegate throughout the task with minimal supervision. Students also stated the scenario context was helpful to apply their prior learning and were pleased that they had been able to manage this patient presentation together. Feedback from facilitators was also positive and both staff and students found it to be an engaging experience.

Conclusion: Simulation escape rooms offer an innovative and engaging way for students to apply learning and vital practice technical and non-technical skills. For educators, clear learning outcomes and allowing sufficient design time is a necessity.

Ethics statement: Authors confirm that all relevant ethical standards for research conduct and dissemination have been met. The submitting author confirms that relevant ethical approval was granted, if applicable.

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DESIGN

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SIMULATED PHYSIOTHERAPY PLACEMENT: AN ALTERNATIVE TO CLINICAL PLACEMENT FOR FIRST YEAR UNDERGRADUATE PHYSIOTHERAPY STUDENTS

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Background and aim: To address the existing workforce deficit within Physiotherapy an extra 500 Physiotherapists need to be trained every year - an additional 15% of current student numbers. The biggest barrier to expansion of student numbers is placement capacity. Novel and innovative models of placement are being trialled, with a strong emphasis on the four pillars of clinical practice. Simulation, and virtual based placements offer alternative models of placement provision [1]. Current literature has detailed successful simulated clinical placement within Physiotherapy using full or partial substitution of clinical placement. It has been shown that switching up to 25% of practice learning to a simulated model does not compromise student attainment or competency [2]. However, these studies tend to involve small student numbers. For simulated placements to be a practical alternative they need to be delivered at scale. The aim of this pilot project was to develop, deliver and evaluate an on campus simulated placement experience for 140 first year Physiotherapy students at a large UK university.

Activity: A four-week program of activities was designed to simulate the core learning that occurs on a typical physiotherapy clinical placement. Including case scenarios with standardized patients, virtual case discussions with clinicians, expert patient panel, day in the life of videos, note writing workshops and live streaming of patient sessions. Students attended two observational days in practice with structured debriefing on campus. Themes for the placement included communication, risk assessment, patient journeys, wellness and effective learning on placement. The development of the learning activities was research and stakeholder informed. Clinical scenarios were co-designed with level 5 Physiotherapy students.

Findings: Placement evaluation was collected via a questionnaire including open ended questions and Likert scales(0-5). Students agreed that that placement was engaging and interesting (mean score of 3.45), with the greatest agreement that the placement had improved note writing, communication and understanding of professionalism. Students ranked simulated clinical scenarios and observation as their preference for activity, with peer learning to support these activities to be ranked the lowest.

A review of placement attainment data noted a correlation with previous clinical placement data. There was an increase in a student's perception of their preparedness to go on a clinical placement pre and post simulated placement.

Conclusion: Large scale, simulated on campus placements are workable and a useful learning experience for first year Physiotherapy students.

Ethics statement: Authors confirm that all relevant ethical standards for research conduct and dissemination have been met. The submitting author confirms that relevant ethical approval was granted, if applicable.

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CONTENT

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UNDERGRADUATE NURSING PROGRAMME ENTRY: ENCOURAGING OFFER HOLDERS TO SELECT THEIR UNIVERSITY OFFER, BASED ON AN INFORMED OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMME CONTENT

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Background and aim: Choosing the right university and programme is crucial for aspiring nursing students and their families. With so many options available, it can be challenging to make an informed decision [1-3]. The aim of this initiative was to provide student nurse offer-holders and their parents/partners with an overview of the undergraduate nursing