

Student evaluation of an online inter-professional ethics learning tool

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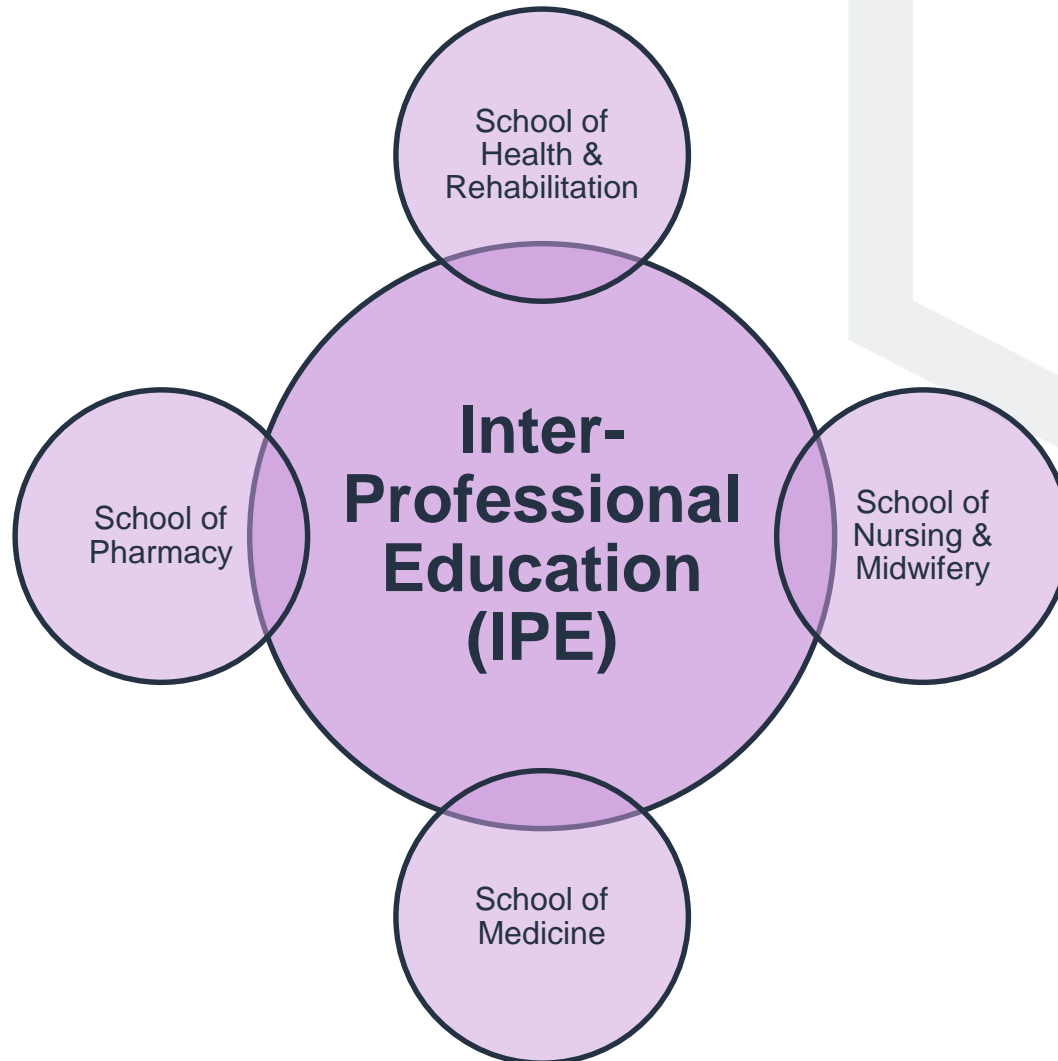
Inter-professional education at Keele



Background

- Students on health-related undergraduate programmes at Keele University undertake Inter-Professional Education (IPE) as part of their degree
- There are different tasks for each level of study
- The aim of IPE at Keele is to increase students' awareness of the roles of other healthcare professionals and learn from each other through a series of group activities

Inter-professional education at Keele





The task – online learning tool

- Individual deliberation on an ethical dilemma
 - 2 weeks to complete
- Inter-professional, small group participation with discussion board
 - 2 weeks to complete
- Completion of proforma about approach to case and link to each professions' code of practice
 - Completed alongside the discussion board

Online learning tool in action

The screenshot displays the VALUESexchange platform interface. At the top, a navigation bar includes the user's name 'Matthew Stibbs', profile options, a search bar, and menu items for HOME, APPS, PROFILE, NEWS FEED, FRIENDS, GROUPS, and BOARDS. The main content area is divided into a left sidebar and a central feed. The sidebar shows the user's profile, a 'Worker' role indicator, and sections for Reports, Library, Friends (1), Find Friends, Groups (38), and a 'Create a Group' button. The central feed features a 'TOP ISSUES' section with a large poll: 'DO YOU BELIEVE THAT PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC BACK PAIN SHOULD BE ENTITLED TO SEE A CHIROPRACTOR ON THE NHS? IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE NHS SHOULD PROVIDE CHIROPRACTORS ONLY FOR CHRONIC BACK PAIN NOT MILD TO MODERATE PAIN.' The poll shows a 100% 'Agree' result. Below this are three smaller issue cards: 'BABY BOXES: Rejection or Protection? (PRACTICE CASE)', 'Do you believe that patients with chronic back pain should be entitled to see ..', and 'Best interests of patient or their family?'. The bottom of the feed shows a 'LATEST ISSUES' section. A 'CHAT' button is visible in the bottom right corner.

Online learning tool in action

Vx VALUESexchange

HOME APPS PROFILE NEWS FEED FRIENDS GROUPS BOARDS

SAVE AS FAVOURITE



Smokers outside the hospital doors

87 Respondents 1 Nov 2018

80%

- Edit Case
- Delete
- Board
- Copy
- Export Responses
- Reports

By Matthew Stibbs Senior Worker (848 XP)

Smoking has been identified as the most preventable cause of death, with strong links to conditions such as Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), cardiovascular disease and many forms of cancer (NHS, 2018). Since 1st July 2007 it has been illegal to smoke in enclosed public places and workplaces in England. For patients receiving hospital treatment, and all visitors or employees, this meant having to go to a dedicated shelter or area within the hospital grounds if they wished to smoke. Recently, a number of NHS hospitals have extended these restrictions by banning smoking within the grounds of the hospital, requiring patients, visitors and staff members to leave the hospital completely if they wish to smoke.

Duncan Selbie's blog on the Public Health England website provides further background to the recent changes. This is available at <https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2017/03/17/tobacco-free-nhs-troubleshooting-tips-for-hospitals/>

It is proposed that all NHS hospitals extend the smoking ban to include the grounds of the hospital.

This Case has now closed This Case has now closed - [Click here to explore reports](#)

f t G+ e +

Discussion boards

Smokers outside the hospital doors

FOLLOW..

ADD

ADVANCED ▾

+ Add depth to each issue using text, videos & images - show what really matters


MONDAY 26, NOV 2018, 12:41


Yes ! to Extension of designated smoking areas

I support the proposal to extend the smoking ban to include the grounds of the hospital because it has the overall desired effect of reducing and promoting smoking cessation. Hospitals are well placed to set good examples for healthy work environments. The crucial issue, in this case, is that of setting a precedent which despite opposition will inevitably be accepted after legislation. Banning smoking on hospital grounds would extend the often crowded dedicated smoking areas to acres on the hospital periphery which is probably the ultimate need needed by most.



Rate this item 

 I agree with this! Often on hospital sites you see members of the health care profession, e.g. nurses and doctors smoking, this sets a horrible example to the public and undermines the NHS' stance on smoking cessation. I also agree that hospitals should be creating a healthy working environment, it is near impossible to avoid second hand smoking when walking near to a smoking area. November 29 at 19:18 - [Report](#)

Report  Comment


TUESDAY 20, NOV 2018, 01:16

Hospitals are a place for promoting health not increasing chances of death.

I strongly agree with this proposal because hospitals are health promoting environments and cannot be used as a place for a habit that leads to the illness and death of so many. When patients are admitted to hospital, they shouldn't have to walk into these unhealthy fumes. This goes for all patients but especially paediatric patients. No pregnant woman or mother and children deserve to be exposed to smoking at a place where they are meant to be improving their health. Smoking is known as one of the leading causes of premature death in the UK. This proposal will allow us to reach millions of smokers with the stop smoking service considering the fact that a quarter of all patients occupying beds in acute hospitals smoke. This proposal will also reduce health inequalities and save lives.



Rate this item 

Report  Comment



Aim

To determine whether use of the online learning tool helped to:

- Further develop students' ethical reasoning skills through completion of an ethical case
- Raise awareness of the ethical viewpoints of different professional groups

Method

- Participants asked to complete questionnaire composed of statements about the online learning tool and learning experience
- Composed of 5 point Likert rating scales and free text comment fields

Sample size

- Completed by 2015, 2016 and 2017 cohorts
 - 1313 students invited to participate with case
 - 1051 (80%) completed the case
 - 581 students completed the evaluation

Results

Statement	2015/16 Positive View	2016/17 Positive View	2017/18 Positive View	Mean Positive View
The online learning resource adds an additional dimension to developing ethical reasoning skills	66% n = 122/185	79% n = 119/150	68% n = 167/246	71% n = 408/581
Completing the case helped me to explore the ethical issues in depth	71% n = 131/185	77% n = 116/150	68% n = 167/246	71% n = 414/581
The discussion board allowed in-depth consideration of the ethical issues	56% n = 104/185	73% n = 110/150	67% n = 165/246	65% n = 379/581
The online tool is a suitable format to learn alongside students from other disciplines	53% n = 98/185	74% n = 111/150	67% n = 165/246	64% n = 374/581

“Positive view” refers to responses of ‘Strongly Agree’ or ‘Agree’ when using the Likert rating scales for each statement

Results

Statement	2015/16 Positive View	2016/17 Positive View	2017/18 Positive View	Mean Positive View
Completing the online IPE process has raised my awareness of the views of other professionals	62% n = 115/185	74% n = 111/150	70% n = 172/246	69% n = 398/581
I was given sufficient support when needed throughout the online IPE experience	65% n = 120/185	79% n = 119/150	70% n = 172/246	71% n = 411/581

Results

- Chi-squared analysis of the responses from 2015 and 2017 demonstrated a significant increase in:
 - Students reporting the discussion board allowing in-depth consideration of the ethical issues ($p < 0.05$)
 - Students feeling that the online tool was a suitable format to learn alongside students from other disciplines ($p < 0.05$)

Positive feedback

- *“...helps you appreciate the importance of multidisciplinary team working when caring for patients”*
- *“...challenging and explores views of other healthcare professionals. It also improves your negotiation and communication skills”*

Positive feedback

- *“...allowed me to see things from other professionals’ point of view”*
- *“Excellent for reflecting on the opinions of others and exploring new ideas. It also addressed topics that may be encountered in future practice”*
- *“Encourages debate in a safe environment where you can think about what you want to say”*

Positive feedback

- *“...debate views in depth – students are a lot more confident online”*
- *“...(encourages) teamwork and cooperation to complete tasks with a similar goal”*

Negative feedback

- The majority of negative feedback centred around difficulty using the system or lack of support in using the system
- Others reported concerns about ensuring all students participate

Conclusions

- The online inter-professional learning task has proved to be a positive experience for students from the four schools
- Approximately two-thirds of students felt that the online tool enhanced their ethical reasoning and was a valuable inter-professional learning experience

Useful information

Matthew Stibbs (on behalf of the VX IPE team)

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Values Exchange

<https://www.vxcommunity.com/>

Demonstration available from

<https://vimeo.com/303091887>

Password: INHWE2019

Thank you