

Evaluation of the Impact of a novel Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) Programme on medical student education and exam preparation.

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Introduction and Background

- 300 U/grad students per academic year.
- Teaching delivery by postgraduate staff.
- Increasing evidence base/ momentum for peer assisted learning
- FY1 "near-peer" and mock OSCE assist
- Interest in education/ teaching



Project Aim

- To create, deliver and assess the impact of a PAL programme directed at third year medical students, delivered by fifth year medical students post clinical finals, supervised by senior medical staff within the education centre



Method

- Expression of interest
- Planning meeting
- Pre-questionnaire
- Twice weekly teaching sessions, (clinical and theory)
- Weekly supervision
- Mock OSCE and debrief session



Results

- Quantitative results
 - evaluation of pre-post questionnaires on clinical skills and knowledge
 - mock OSCE
- Qualitative results
 - questionnaire feedback of overall experience
 - Feedback from other professional and education centre staff



"Valued having input and choosing desirable topics to us"



"positively impacted on our knowledge and skills"

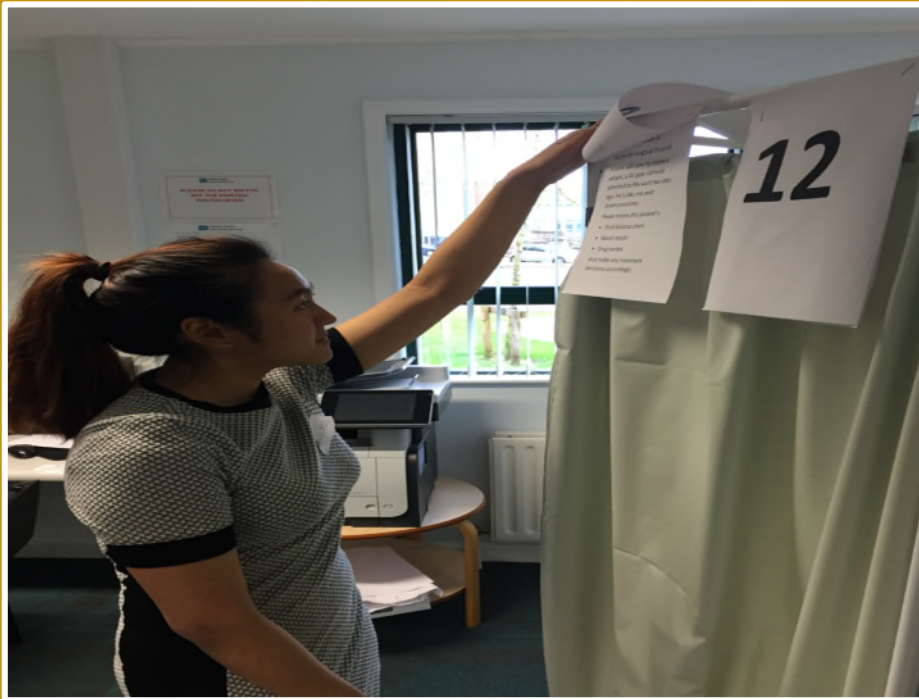


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"The environment was supportive, non-threatening and ideal for learning"



"mock OSCE a positive and helpful experience. It gave us motivation to practice more and we got instant and invaluable feedback."



"Reassuring, invaluable and directed at our level."



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Impact of the intervention

- Third years
 - hugely positive experience/ 100% pass rate
- Final years
 - examiners status/ poster presentation
 - Involved in further project progression
- Locally
 - PAL and near-peer programmes
 - invested in 6 new clinical teaching fellows



Impact of the Intervention

- Regional recognition
 - SERN Conference
 - QUB medical school
 - adapted similar programme
 - involved in standardised programme
 - aim programme to help struggling students



Final thought

- If we can create competent and effective doctors with great knowledge, skills and confidence, at no extra cost to education or health budgets, we can influence and deliver great healthcare to our patients throughout the region.

