Contemporary approaches to creating fit for purpose Advanced Clinical Practitioners: Work-based learning and portfolio

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Aims:

- This workshop will share the experiences of one University that responded to the evolving role of Advanced Clinical Practitioners.
- Changes to the Advanced Practice programme and the challenges that were overcome will be discussed with examples from practice of the benefits to ACP’s, patients, stakeholders and service.
- There is an opportunity to look at examples from student portfolios through activities within the workshop.
Why?

- MSc Advanced Practice commenced in 2005 at University of Salford

- Northwest workforce modernisation – 3 main aims


- Impact studies of ACP roles on service and their ‘added value’ are limited in the UK

- Future direction of the ACP role

- Trailblazers / Innovators / Change agents

- Role Models / Leaders (Begley at al 2014; Bryant-Lukosius et al 2004; Manley 1997)

- Programme changes to meet evolving role – future NHS workforce
How?

• Traditional dissertation ➔ Portfolio / Clinical Cases / Project
• In line with changes in: technology, patient demographics, politics, consumer knowledge, litigation and the demands of an efficient health service (Callaghan 2008)
• Teaching & Assessment ➔ Consolidate & contextualise learning
• Challenging academic community - QAA standards (2010) were integrated
• Collaborative working: stakeholders, students, external examiners & academic approval processes ➔ programme validation

• Dissemination
### What?

**University of Salford**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Practitioner Competence</th>
<th>Clinical Reasoning</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The development of a portfolio of evidence to demonstrate competence across the ‘Elements of Advanced Clinical Practice’</td>
<td>Guided case based learning to facilitate the acquisition of clinical skills &amp; the underpinning critical thinking to develop clinical reasoning &amp; competence</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Critical engagement of everyday practice through reflection and action</td>
<td>1. Review of advanced history taking &amp; physical examination in complex cases</td>
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<td>3. Advancement of knowledge &amp; skills through clinical cases</td>
<td>3. Critical appraisal of relevant guidelines, protocols, benchmarks and management plans with health promotion</td>
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<td>5. Ability to select appropriate high quality evidence</td>
<td>5. Review of own practice and the legal and ethical frameworks for Advanced Practice.</td>
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Tripartite agreement between student, work-based consultant assessor and learning facilitator (Gaskell & Beaton 2010) **Clinical Case X 5**
The Elements of Advanced Clinical Practice

Adapted from the Faculty of Emergency Nursing Fellow Level Core Competencies
Example of one sub-element personalised by AP student
THE ELEMENTS OF ADVANCED CLINICAL PRACTICE
ELEMENT 2: INTERVENTION

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Code &amp; Subject</th>
<th>Personalised competency statements</th>
<th>Method of achievement (generating evidence)- Resources: taught, independent, clinical</th>
<th>Skills required for role &amp; possible timescales</th>
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<tr>
<td>2.1.1 Assessment</td>
<td>Collaborate within the MDT in decision making about prioritizing care and when dealing with those clients with complex care needs</td>
<td>Taught university study sessions Independent home study using a wide range of resources (home, university, and clinical area resources) Teaching materials/presentations (Blackboard, internet, clinical area, intranet) Practice placements in clinical areas relevant to patient caseload to gain a better understanding of appropriate decisions, management, and referrals, admissions, and OPD Patient case based discussion with clinical supervisor Network with other advanced practitioners and MDT e.g. specialist nurses, mental health, physiotherapy, McMillan team, primary care, social services</td>
<td>Ability to apply A&amp;P knowledge to altered physiological states -September 2012 Understand normal/abnormal health dependent upon the patient and presenting complaint -September 2012 Appropriate and competent history taking skills and examinations skills -May 2011 Ability to order and interpret appropriate investigations -September 2012 Competency in forming differential diagnosis and determining actual diagnosis -September 2012 Appropriate referral/admission/discharge planning</td>
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Clinical assessment Reflective practice Portfolio
Testimony from qualifying student

As I outlined at the meeting yesterday you have helped me to produce a body of work I can be proud of, and guided me through a process which will make me a better practitioner, and for that I thank you.

As I outlined…

• "This was expedited by the initial phase portfolio work, which encouraged us to reflect upon and construct an individual learning pathway. At the time this felt like a laborious and incentive less exercise, which would eat into important learning time, but actually it consolidated and focused my need to explore particular constructs, which has enabled me to produce a collection of work which represents 'me' and my profession …position going forward into the next stage of my career.”
Outcomes

- Module evaluations at Salford
  - Facilitated transition from competent to proficient autonomous ANP with increased confidence
  - Increased confidence in managing complex / unusual patients and improved clinical reasoning
  - Improved ability to locate, appraise, audit and implement evidence based practice

- Marie Waller (2015) – elected onto NICE committee: *Haematological Cancers: Improving Outcomes*


The portfolio is a synthesis of the ACP and their journey in advanced clinical practice, with evidence of benefit to patients and service.
References


• Neylon, J. (2015) Nurse-led management of chronic disease in a residential care setting. *Nursing Older People* 27 (9) 22-26

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