

Placement profile

Names and roles

Glen Davies
Advanced MSK Physiotherapist

Organisations

Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospital NHS
Foundation Trust



Placement overview

The student was involved with 3 primary modes of patient contact; 1. Tele-consultations (all initial contacts apart from first contact physiotherapy patients via a walk in centre) 2. Virtual face to face consultations via electronic solutions 3. Direct face 2 face contact using full PPE according to government guidance.

A placement project was set on day 1 in which students selected a patient & follow their physiotherapy journey. They then invite their clinical educators to a virtual online consultation & present their case. They must also show how their interventions &/or management of their case has changed or been influenced in any way by COVID. It can also include any innovations or future suggestions which are then considered by the rest of the team to see if our current service might be influenced by this. These solutions can be utilised even if the student cannot be present face to face & so their time is able to be filled well giving the students greater ownership of their timetable and workload.

Supervision: 1:1, different methods of patient interaction, whole team and remote supervision.

Lessons learnt:

1. Moving away from a traditional model of solely face 2 face consultations provided more learning opportunities for all
2. Students can thrive in this environment when given the opportunity to influence their learning
3. Using simple tech and virtual solutions allowed us to reach to a wider audience – eg share screen with large text for those hard of hearing

Top tips for others:

- “Prepare a good timetable well in advance – reacting to situations in real time is harder”
- “Try to have solutions at the ready in case someone has to self isolate – be prepared to adapt”
- “Supervising remote students can be easy if you are willing to change some of your practices”
- “Things are different now, instead of thinking how do you provide the placements in a way you always have, try to do something completely different and you will surprise yourself!”

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