

Training the undergraduate clinical teacher – sustainability in delivery of clinical curricula in Sri Lanka

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Aim: To deliver a train the trainer program in conjunction with developing a clinical pharmacy curriculum for a new Bachelor of Pharmacy BPharm course in Sri Lanka.

Method: After preliminary discussions with local lecturers, gaps in knowledge, skills and experience required to deliver the proposed clinical curriculum were identified. A program of training days to address these gaps and share clinical teaching materials was developed and delivered by pharmacists from the University of Queensland.

Results: A series of five one day workshops was delivered over a five week period. Workshop activities included:

1. Gathering current evidence to update and prepare clinical tutorials and lectures
2. Delivery of clinical tutorials and lectures including peer evaluation of each participant's tutorials
3. Understanding clinical education, providing feedback and providing clinical teaching on the run
4. Up-skilling in providing ward based teaching- this was conducted in workshops and at the nearby hospital
5. Developing and evaluating objective structured clinical examinations (OSCEs) for both formative and summative assessments.

The training days were attended by between 7 and 18 pharmacy and medical staff from five university pharmacy courses in Sri Lanka.

Conclusions: Although most staff found the workshops beneficial in increasing their knowledge and skills, many felt further support from experienced clinical teachers was desirable.