

Radiography student perceptions of a simulated clinical placement to enhance clinical placement capacity: a descriptive qualitative study



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Background – The Problem?



Thinking of a Solution...

- Students incentivised to practice in Wales via financial support from the Welsh Government (Health Education and Improvement Wales 2021)
- Need innovative pedagogical approach that meets the workforce demands and Welsh healthcare strategies
- Something we can deliver!



Thinking of a
Solution...



Our Final Solution

- Simulation-Based Education (SBE)
- Simulated Clinical Placement (SCP)
- Effective replacement of clinical time within other healthcare professions
- SBE shows a positive impact on first-year radiography students (Partner et al. 2022)



The SCP Package – Where Did We Start?

1

Conceptual framework for Virtual Reality (VR) use (Taylor et al. 2022) within radiography

2

Theoretical model for delivering patient centred care (Hyde and Hardy 2021) in support of the Welsh Government focus on maintaining quality, safe and patient centred care

3

An internationally recognised simulation framework (Jolly, Nestel & Sprick 2012)

The SCP Package – The Activities

Conflict Resolution

Trauma



Safe Practice



Dementia

The SCP Package – The Activities



MRI Safety



Safeguarding



Communication



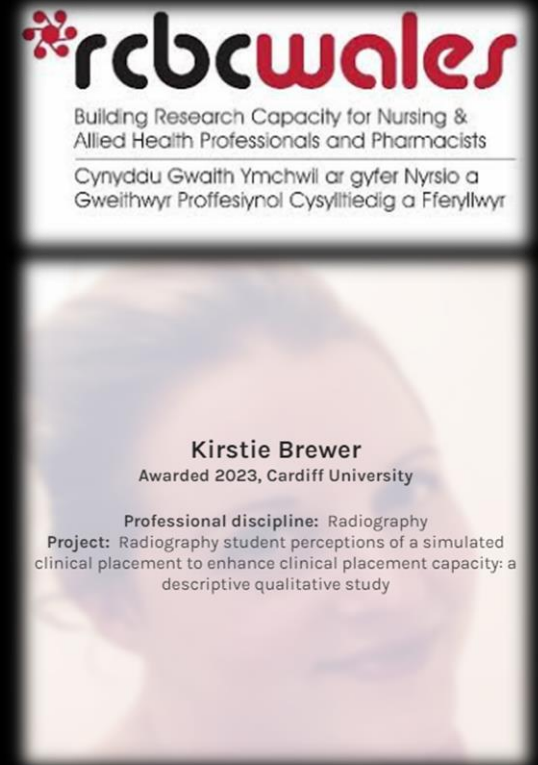
Other Activities...



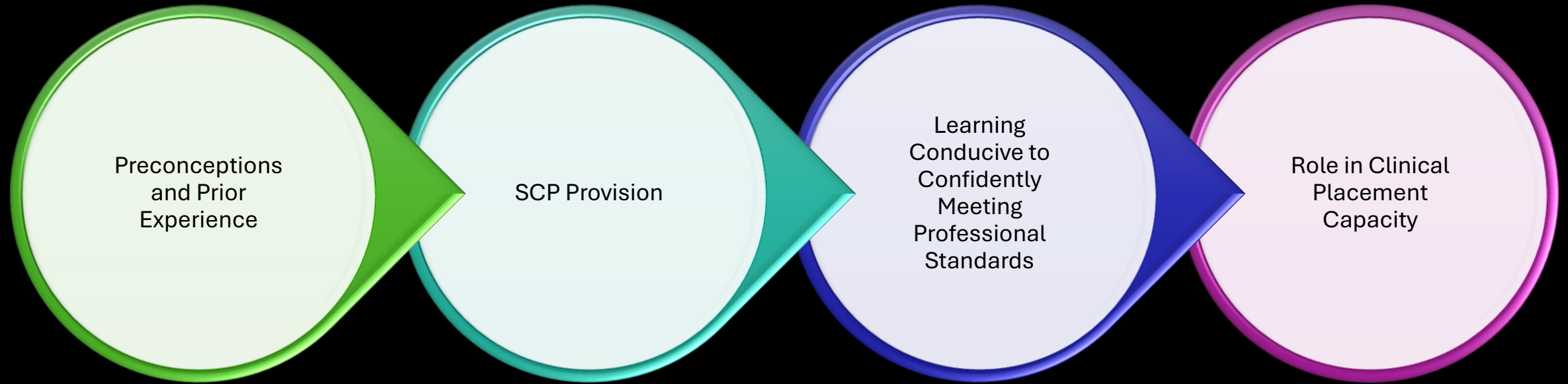
- Virtual Reality (VR) using software from Virtual Medical Coaching (VMC)
- Audiovisual Prep Materials
- Online Quizzes
- Self-Study Tasks
- Workbook
- Reflection Opportunities (Individual and Group)
- Group Tasks – Videos/Posters/Patient Materials

The Research!

- Awarded RCBC Wales FiR Fellowship in August 2023
- Project Title: Radiography student perceptions of a simulated clinical placement to enhance clinical placement capacity: a descriptive qualitative study
- Method: Descriptive, Qualitative, Focus Groups, Audio Recorded and Transcribed
- Data Analysis: Inductive Thematic Analysis



The Findings: 4 Key Themes



Preconceptions
and Prior
Experience

SCP Provision

Learning
Conducive to
Confidently
Meeting
Professional
Standards

Role in Clinical
Placement
Capacity

“I don’t think it’s a replacement for clinical experience. It’s a useful adjunct to it. It’s nice to have that time to do your reflections, to do the scenarios, do the escape rooms. It’s nice to have some time to focus on what you’re doing in practice, but it certainly doesn’t replace it”

“I think it’s an ‘alright’ substitute but you’re never gonna be able to replace the value of time in a clinical space or clinical placement. That’s where I have done most of my learning”

“It’s the difference between using [SCP] as a tool to increase, versus using it as a tool to cope with the increase, I think as a tool to cope with the increase, great, but as a tool to like go ‘Oh well, we can get even more people again’, I’d say no”

Conclusions

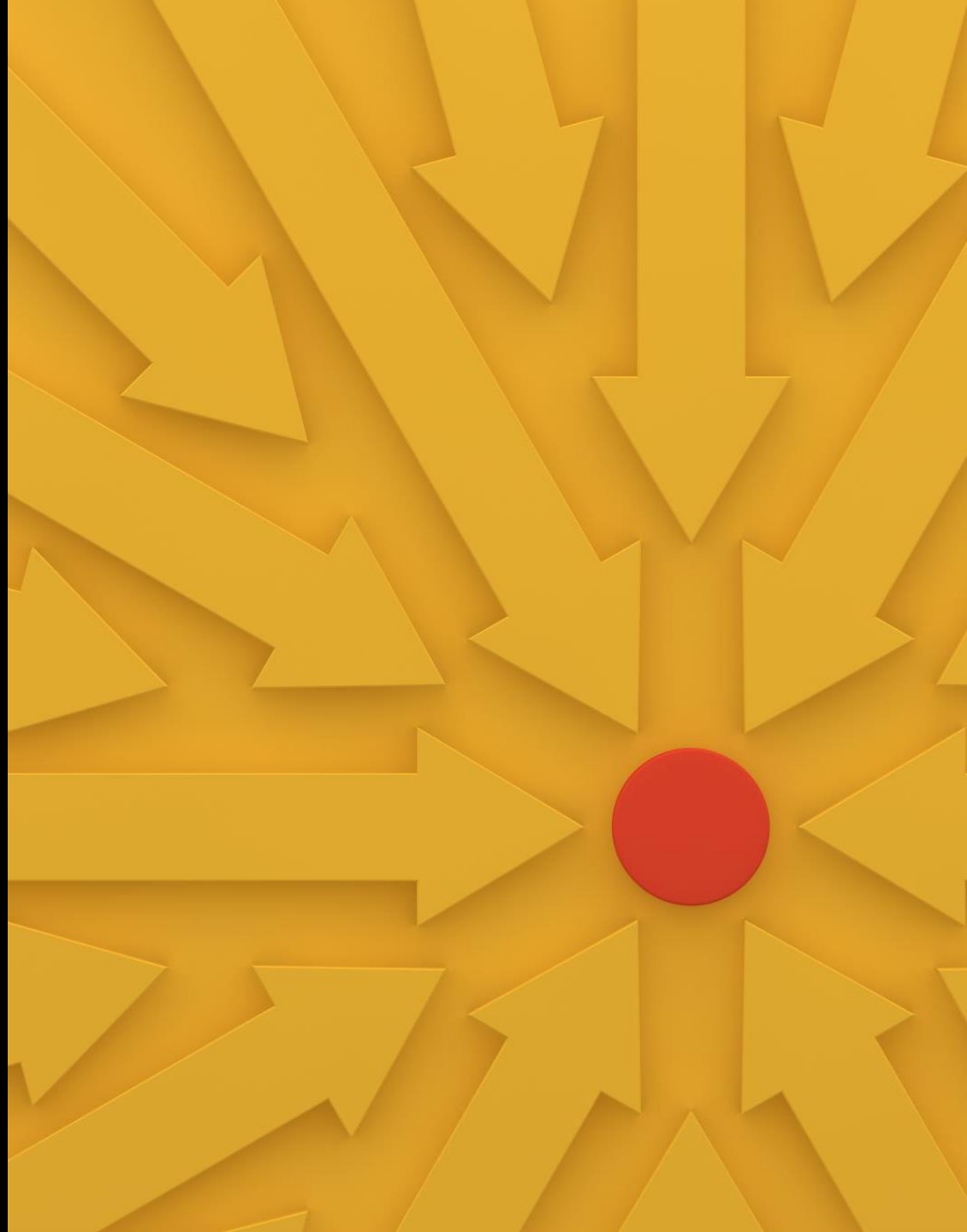
“supplement not a substitute”

“accommodating, not obtaining”



The Way Forward

- Requirement for dedicated Welsh guidance on completing mandated clinical hours with simulation-based education
- Explore the relationship between simulation-based education and student capacity management
- HEI Collaboration



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