

Allied Health Professions Practice-based Learning (PrBL) Recovery



Peer-Assisted Learning 2023

AHP Practice-based Learning (PrBL) Recovery: Peer-Assisted Learning 2023 (Subsection of Infrastructure report)

Situation / Background

The Allied Health Professional (AHP) consensus statements state "a wide range of student supervision models can be used to deliver, and support practice-based learning." In response to this statement, an AHP national working group was set up in 2018 to explore and implement peer assisted learning (PAL) placement models. The focus being on enhancing the quality of student learning experiences but also the opportunity to diversify student practice-based learning (PrBL) experiences across Scotland to increase future capacity.

Benefits of PAL include increased student confidence; reduction in student anxiety; enhanced team working skills; augmented learning opportunities and reduction in clinical educator workload and stress. It is recognised for the benefits of PAL to be optimised; practice educator education is necessary (Carey 2018, Markowski 2021, Sevenhuysen 2017).

Earlier phases of the project developed a workshop to support practice educators to develop the knowledge and skills to plan, deliver and evaluate a PAL placement. During the pandemic, it became necessary to develop existing content into an online resource. This was successfully trialled and evaluated with 5 digital workshops and 78 attendees.

Uni-professional Practice Education Leads (PELs) were employed in 2021 with a focus on placement recovery following the Covid-19 pandemic. Eight of the AHP professions identified the introduction or increase of the PAL model would offer a valuable contribution to placement recovery for their professions.

Purpose

The purpose of this project was to increase AHP practice educator capacity and capability in the delivery of PAL PrBL.

Table 1: Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) scope of project

Scope	Stakeholders
Increase delivery of PAL workshops	PAL National Working Group
Identify resources to support practice	Uni-professional PELs
educators to deliver PAL	

Task

Increase spread and sustainability of PAL by:

- Developing the infrastructure to increase opportunities to deliver the PAL digital workshop
- Developing additional resources to support practice educators deliver PAL PrBL

Actions

- Development, delivery, and evaluation of a train-the-trainer programme to enable
 Uni-professional PELs to deliver PAL workshops
- Streamline administration required for workshops
- Delivery and evaluation of uni-professional and AHP PAL workshops
- Development of resources to support embedding PAL in practice

Impact and Outputs

Development and delivery of a PAL workshop train-the -trainer programme

• 9 AHPs trained through train-the-trainer to deliver workshops

Workshop delivery (June – December 2022)

- 19 workshops delivered (8 AHP workshops/ 11 uni-professional workshops)
- 285 workshop attendees
- Attendees from 13 boards and 2 national health boards and 9 AHP professions

TURAS development of PAL resources:

• Animation

•	Videos
•	Case studies
Engag	gement Impact
•	Train-the-Trainer
•	100% felt programme was an effective means of upskilling practice-educators to
	deliver the PAL workshop:
	"Good level of training to support delivery of workshops independently"
•	Streamlining administration of workshop with Business Support Unit support:
	"Having been without support and then with admin support – I don't now see how this can run without admin support"
•	Example of pledge following PAL workshop:
	"I will aim to support PAL placement with another staff member"
•	Feedback following interactive workshop:
	"I am sold, and feel more confident pitching the approach to my team"

Educational Impact

Confidence measures of participants were collected pre and post workshop:





- Not at all confident/ somewhat not confident/ neutral
- Somewhat confident/ extremely confident

Figure 1: PAL educational impact before and after workshop attendance

Evaluation post workshop on knowledge, skills and attitudes:

• 97% report the introductory and main presentation supported learning around planning, delivering, and evaluating a PAL placement

• 92% agreed learning outcomes were met in the interactive session

"Thank you for the session! I feel this has been the most informative and productive Teams/presentation on PAL placement. I feel far better prepared to begin thinking of a PAL placement, and how to plan for such. Definitely recommend this session to anyone who is considering a PAL placement, or even those who currently aren't as they may be convinced!"

Performance Impact

Increased capacity of workshop delivery through train-the-trainer programme:

- 7 AHP NES PELs
- 2 HEI representatives delivered the workshop

Six-month follow up data (early data):

- 37.5% have taken a PAL placement
- 62.5% plan to take one in the future

Recommendations

- Further development of a robust infrastructure to support the delivery of PAL training to further build the capacity and capability around PAL:
 - Recruitment of Board PELs, champions within boards and HEIs to continue delivery of PAL workshop training utilising the train the trainer model
 - Ongoing expression of interest post to continue spread and sustainability of practice educator education of PAL
 - ❖ Increase national working group to include HEI representation
 - Continued administration support from Business Support Unit using agreed procedures
- Evaluation of resources to ensure they meet the needs of AHP practice educators:

- PAL resources on TURAS e.g., number of times viewed, survey of practice educators, equality and diversity review
- Ongoing review and evaluation of workshop from practice educator and uni-professional PEL feedback
- Identify potential gaps in resources e.g., ensure all professions are covered/ explore examples of PAL in new clinical areas e.g., community.

Further information is available here: https://api.ltb.io/show/ABSYB

This resource may be made available, in full or summary form, in alternative formats and community languages. Please contact us on **0131 656 3200** or email altformats@nes.scot.nhs.ukto discuss how we can best meet your requirements.



NHS Education for Scotland Westport 102 Westport Edinburgh EH3 9DN