

Development of a Pharmacy Experiential Learning Database

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AIM

The first stage of a collaborative project involving The University of Sydney, University of South Australia and University of Queensland, funded by the Australian Learning and Teaching Council (formerly the Carrick Institute), is now underway. The aim of this first stage is to improve planning of pharmacy experiential learning through the establishment of a national central online repository of collaboratively developed learning and assessment tasks. This repository will be publicly available, and will be of particular use to Pharmacy programs throughout Australasia.

METHOD

A previous national project established the need for a repository of learning and assessment activities suitable for experiential placements in Pharmacy, and proposed an educational model and template by which to achieve this. Using this template, the current project will undertake a series of national workshops to generate new materials, which will then be housed on an interactive website custom-designed for the project. Role-specific, password-protected materials will be available to academic, preceptor and student site members, and short descriptions of each activity will be available publicly. An online evaluation form for each activity, tailored to each user role, will ensure ongoing content maintenance and overall site improvement.

OUTCOMES

Activities currently contained on the site include patient counselling interaction and reflection; individual reflection on a group project; and dispensing - with more activities to be added following the next workshop to be held during the 2008 APSA Conference in Canberra; and subsequent workshops during 2009. The database will provide a basis for the next two stages of the project: collaborative development of standardised graduated developmental descriptors; and development of quality indicators for experiential learning.