Challenges of Introducing e-Portfolios to Post-Registration Nursing and Allied Health Professionals

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May 2017
Presentation Aims:

- Why E-Portfolio?
- Strategic and National Drivers
- Pros and Cons
- Improving the learning experience
- Assessment and Feedback via E-Portfolio
- Models to aid lifelong learning and employability
- Our current aims for Post grad education in Healthcare
- The many challenges which lie ahead
- Our revised plan……
Why e-Portfolio?
A broader definition of e-portfolios

….a repository, a means of presenting oneself and ones skills, qualities and achievements, a guidance tool, a means of sharing and collaborating and a means of encouraging a sense of personal identity…

(CRA, 2008)
Strategic Drivers

• Coventry University Group Education Strategy 2015 – 2021: specifically, ‘Innovation and Digital Fluency’; ‘Embedded employability’; ‘Creativity and Enterprise’

• Desire to introduce improved Student Experience, by encouraging formative, peer-based assessment

• To encourage the development of self-regulation in students

• To enable timely, high-quality feedback to improve student-learning (Welsh 2012)
Pros and Cons of e-portfolio

Pros:
• Freedom of network and mobile access
• Increased security
• Removal of physical size restrictions
• Data storage/backup advantages
• Ability to add a plethora of media sources of evidence – hyperlink items in and between modules
• Creation of matrices to link theory and practice elements

Cons:
• Lack of access to off site IT/network
• Off the shelf systems – `one size doesn't fit all’ scenario
• Requires high level of technical support/training initially
Improving learning experiences

• E-portfolios promote a learner centered approach to the learning experience with a focus on reflection and outcomes.

• Encourages students to embrace the critical reflective process of written reflections to articulate learning and knowledge development.

• Nurtures problem solving strategies and ability to synthesize and integrate information (evidence) - Metacognition

• Inclusive

• Encourages the development of IT skills
Assessment of Learning

- Summative v Formative assessment

- Can assess a range of abilities – critical thinking and clinical decision making

- Cognitive and technical abilities

- Student self assessment

- Peer assessment

- Embraces authentic assessment practices in order to assess competence – by encouraging reflection and self assessment.
Continuous Feedback

Potential for a variety of sources of feedback:

– Supervisor
– Peers
– Wider audience – gaining international perspectives

Quality / Timely Feedback

– Written
– Audio
– Visual
Models of e-portfolio to aid - Lifelong learning and Employability

(Haldane T, 2014)
Our aims

To develop a career-long reflective-learning habit in all our nursing and AHP students by the adoption of e-portfolio

1. Pilot the e-portfolio with level 6 CPD Health Assessment students
2. Introduce level 7 Advanced Clinical Practice (multidisciplinary) students to the e-portfolio
3. Roll out e-portfolio to all our undergraduate nursing students from 2019
4. Include all Health and Life Science students from 2021
Challenges in choice of platform
Challenges in IT set-up

- Learning to use a **new system**
- Having the ‘**editing rights**’ for set-up
- Enrolling **IT technicians** into the e-portfolio team
- Working with **non-medically orientated** technicians
- Ensuring hospital ‘**firewalls**’ allow students access
Challenges in Time-scales
Challenges in Training Staff

• **Time** constraints!

• Are we all **IT-literate**?

• Overcoming **resistance**

• Getting to a stage where we can **teach** the students how to use it!
Challenges in introducing to mentors/students

**Mentors:**

- Users guide
- Student-led tuition?
- One-to-one from University staff?

**Students:**

- Users guide
- Seminars on use of e-portfolio
- One-to-one from University staff?
Revised plan

1. Pilot with Mahara platform May 2017

2. Review workability of e-portfolio

3. Revise format + training

4. Launch to whole cohort of level 6 Health Assessment students in September ’17

5. Reassess

6. Launch to Level 7 Advanced Clinical Practice September 2018
References

References continued:


Images courtesy of:
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www.healthcareers.nhs.uk       www.mirror.co.uk