

Facilitating and developing the involvement of service users and carers in the Mental Health Nursing Programmes

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Rationale

Student Nurses spend 50% of their programme in clinical practice, acquiring the clinical knowledge and skills to enable them to register as a nurse in their chosen field

It is while undertaking clinical placements that nursing students have the opportunity to engage with service users and carers to develop collaborative therapeutic relationships.

However, their understanding of the service user perspective can become obscured by daily workload pressures.

Educationalists therefore need to ensure that such perspective's are also represented in the development, design and delivery of the nursing curriculum

(NMC 2010, Tremayne et al 2014)

How: Mental Health Nursing

- Consultation on the content and delivery of the programme
- Service user recruitment advisory group (SURAG)
- Simulated Practice Sessions
- Clinical Placement experiences
- Seminars and lectures

Seminars and Lectures

Service users and carers lead and facilitate sharing their expertise and experiences

Case studies, care plans and risk assessments

Seminar: Perinatal Mental Health

- **Jacquie “Expert by experience” Midwife and service user**
- **Carol “ Expert by experience” lecturer and CPN**
- Includes policies guidelines and legislation that informs practice, (EBP)
- Case study of shared experiences of assessment and care during post partum psychosis including difficult decision making around safe guarding and risk
- Impact for Jacquie and her family
- Development of a therapeutic relationship and the outcome.
- Challenges stigma

The Process of feedback and reflection

- Discuss and reflect upon their experiences of facilitating,
- Provide feedback to the students
- Positive and negative experiences for service users, carers and students
- How to give negative feedback in a supportive and constructive way

To conclude

- Service users and carers involvement needs to be creative, supportive and meaningful for everyone