

A Cast of Seventeen

A Pharmacy and Nursing Collaborative Production



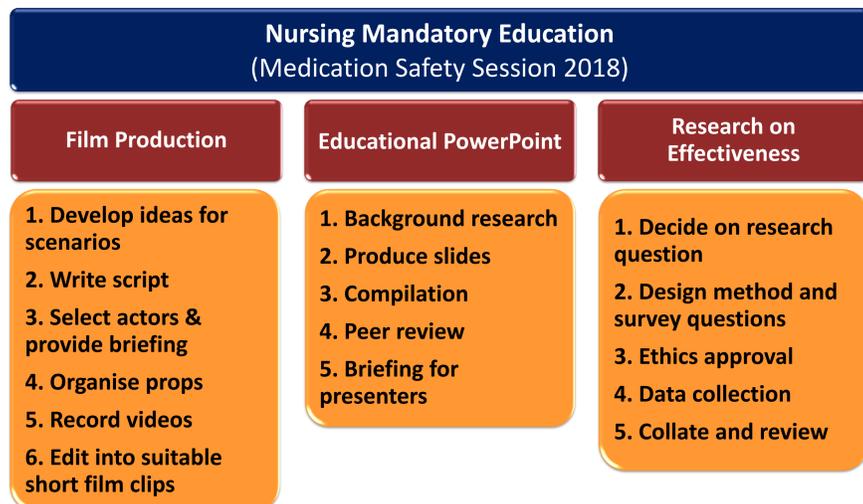
Aim

To evaluate pharmacists' perception of a collaborative approach between nursing and pharmacy to produce a pharmacy-led interactive presentation for nursing education in a metropolitan tertiary teaching hospital.

Method

A senior pharmacist and nurse educator collaborated to oversee the creation of teaching material for a medication safety session within mandatory education sessions for all nurses. Over the course of a year, about 800 nurses were expected to attend one of these mandatory training sessions. The idea came to fruition with the help of a team of nurses and pharmacists. The main teaching points were: medications in a patient made Nil By Mouth, IV to oral switch, venous thromboembolism prophylaxis, and medication storage. All pharmacists were invited to participate in different aspects of the education depending on their skillset. Majority of the clinical pharmacists (14 pharmacists) expressed interest in participating in this project.

Within the pharmacy cohort, the overall project was split into 3 main teams. The filming crew were responsible for producing short film clips that were incorporated by the educational team into the training slides. The research team evaluated the effectiveness of the session through surveys. Surveys were taken before and after the session to assess the knowledge gained from these sessions.



Considerations for filming a video and research for education purposes:

- Permission for project: Director of Nursing, Director of Pharmacy
- Permissions for filming: Media services, Nurse Unit Manager of the ward
- Time to film: use of ward area during low activity period, ensuring safe processes for the remainder of the ward whilst filming
- Selection of actors: well-known staff, acting ability, availabilities
- Method of data collection: paper surveys requiring manual entry or online surveys (possibly lower response rate)
- Design of survey to effectively elicit a difference between baseline knowledge and knowledge gained from the session
- Method of standardising assessment of answers

Close collaboration between nursing and pharmacy staff ensured that key messages were delivered in a receptive way to the intended audience.

To gauge feedback from our participating pharmacists, a survey was conducted for their views of the experience.



Results

Survey responses were received from 86% (12 of 14) of participating pharmacists with 58% (7 of 12) respondents having attended at least three meetings for this project. All respondents considered the experience beneficial, and provided a positive rating in relation to perceived personal benefits such as gaining new knowledge and experience and realising the benefits of team work and collaboration. All respondents indicated interest in future participation in the training material production process.

Figure 1: Proportion of staff working on each component

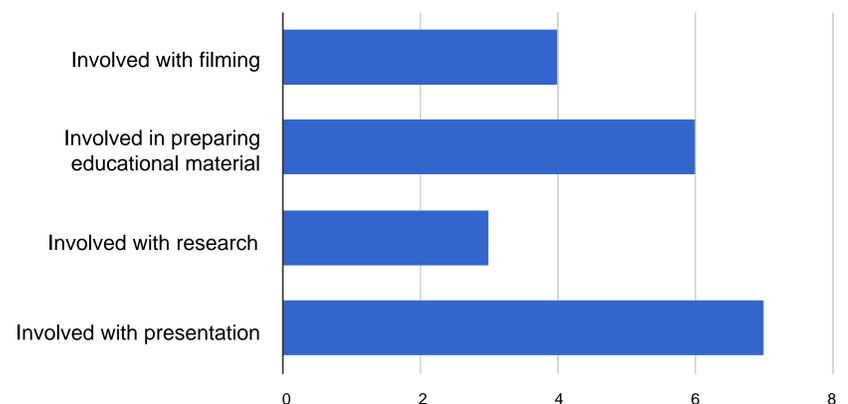
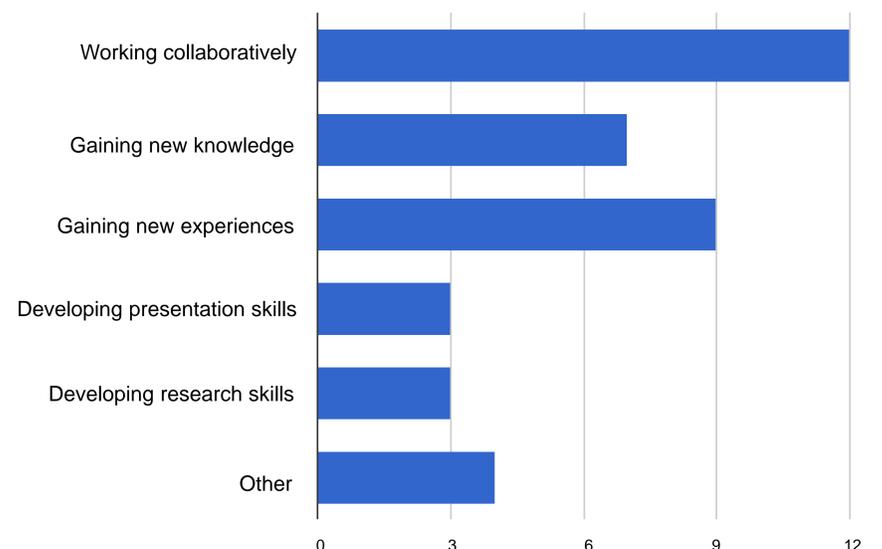


Figure 2: Benefits perceived by participants



Conclusion

Designing a presentation can be a task for an individual, however it can also be an opportunity for a collaborative learning and team building exercise. For the pharmacy, this project enabled staff to participate in education and research in multiple ways. Multidisciplinary collaboration can increase engagement of nursing staff attending the mandatory sessions. The various components of the project required strong coordination for an effective outcome, and this required significant time to manage all aspects. One of the observed benefits to the department was an improvement in team morale during a period of instability (due to high staff turnover); our crew are already enthusiastically discussing topics for 2019!

Acknowledgements

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