



Innovations in Patient & Public Involvement (PPI) in Education

Dr Yvonne Awenat: Senior Clinical Research Fellow

Jan Stone: Community Liaison Group Member

Doctorate in Clinical Psychology

Division of Psychology & Mental Health

The Community Liaison Group (CLG)

- Established @ 2006 - CLG was one of the 1st Patient & Public Involvement (PPI) groups.
- CLG aims to enhance the education of trainees of the Doctorate in Clinical Psychology (DClinPsy).
- CLG members represent the local community by:-
 - contributing their real-world 'lived experiences' of psychological difficulties and mental health services
 - CLG members are involved in all aspects of the DClinPsy
- Members meet monthly to plan and review their involvement.

CLG Involvement Roles

- Representation on all programme committees.
- Executive Committee & all sub-committees i.e., Research; Selection; Academic, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion
- Interview panel for selection of applicants
- Roles include:
 - Co-assessment with clinical lecturers of trainee's interview skills
 - Research consultation for trainee's doctoral research study
 - On-going collaboration / supervision of trainee's research
 - Co-delivery of lectures

Why should CLG members have support and training?

- CLG members are recruited from the local community but are not required to have any expertise of university teaching or research.
- Provision of a basic level of knowledge and skills aims to empower members to contribute meaningfully to trainees learning:
 1. Confidently plan and deliver CLG involvement activities.
 2. Extend their own personal development & be able to evidence new skills and knowledge by a record of achievement – useful for self or future roles.

Innovative co-produced training package

- Funded by a Faculty Social Responsibility award
- CLG members & programme leads co-developed the training package to comprise of 4 interactive workshops.
- Each workshop aimed to address a core function of CLG involvement:
 - Understanding Clinical Psychology
 - Understanding research
 - Providing constructive feedback
 - Facilitating small breakout groups

Understanding Clinical Psychology

- Although clinical psychology is a core profession within NHS health services it is often misunderstood and confused with other professions by patients and the general public.
- To effectively contribute to the education of DClinPsy Trainees it is important that CLG members understand:
- The role of clinical psychologists and the DClinPsy programme

Understanding research

- Trainees are required to plan and implement a Doctoral level study.
- As for all major nationally funded health research PPI is essential.
- CLG members sit on the programme research sub-committee where each proposed study is assessed and approved before it commences.
- CLG members help trainees consider the value and impact of their study to the community and use of plain English in the lay summary and participant-facing documents.
- Following approval CLG members may help with mock interviews, qualitative data analysis, or as part of the research supervisory team.

Providing Constructive Feedback

- CLG provide feedback to trainees:-
 - During research consultation sessions with trainees
 - In co-assessing trainees 'Live Observation' exam with clinical lecturers
 - and to programme staff:
- During attendance at programme committees

An example: the 'Live Observation' exam

- CLG members are *experts in experience*, not clinical theory.
- Psychotherapy research indicates the therapeutic relationship to be a strong predictor of client outcome.
- CLG assessors focus is:
 - "How would I feel if I were the client?"
 - "Do I see evidence that the trainee has demonstrated Carl Rogers '*core conditions necessary for a good therapeutic relationship*':-
 - Warmth
 - Empathy
 - Congruence
 - Unconditional positive regard

Challenges expressed by CLG members

- Fear of being too critical
- Imbalance of power dynamics
- Cultural sensitivities
- Imposter Syndrome

Next steps: Facilitation of small breakout groups

- CLG are involved in co-delivering several lectures
- Clinical psychology training emphasises 'Reflective Learning'
- Most lectures include time for discussion of key issues in small groups
- CLG often act as the group facilitator
- Good quality facilitation is important for all those involved in education
- Preparation of this training is now underway!



THE END!

Any Questions?

- Thank You for participating
- Yvonne.awenat@manchester.ac.uk
- Jan: mail@valleymusic.co.uk