GOOD PRACTICE- INNOVATION AND COLLABORATION

Synergy between the Hospital and the University

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WHAT WAS DONE?

We established a mutually beneficial, cost neutral partnership between a university school of pharmacy and a teaching hospital pharmacy department.

In 2011 the Pharmacy Department (MMUH) and the School of Pharmacy RCSI signed a Memorandum of Understanding, the first such partnership in Ireland. As a result, undergraduate pharmacy education is undergoing a transformation from didactic learning delivered by academic staff to a patient centred clinical model delivered by hospital pharmacists. In turn, the hospital pharmacy is enjoying the fruits of closer links with the university. This model is being successfully adopted by other Irish hospitals and may assist with the development the new integrated pharmacy degree

WHY WAS IT DONE?

Interim Irish accreditation standards emphasise the importance of preparing pharmacy undergraduates for patient centred practice.

We have been able to implement the education and research statements from the EAHP 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4.

"It was good having a background brief on the running of the health service as none of our other lectures have dealt with this subject before"

4th year student - Hospital Management



cducational provision

Hospital Visits

Clinical Workshops

Career advice and

management training

Direct Patient Contact

Summer Placements

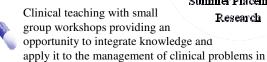
Research

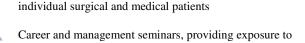
HOW WAS IT

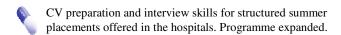
In a stepwise fashion, new elements were added to the students' curriculum:



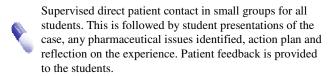
Lectures in therapeutics from practising clinical pharmacists, aiding material contextualisation.







the reality of decision making in health care



"Group discussion of scenarios was very effective in my opinion" "Very well organised and structured and informative"

"Very practical and hands on. I felt I learned a lot from studying the kardex." "learned how theoretical concepts are applied in practice. Clarified many

> queries/issues I was confused about. Thank you" 4th year students' feedback - Clinical Workshops

WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED?

1. Positive student feedback highlighting a) pharmacy staff knowledge, b) the "real life" focus of the material c) teaching methods d) appreciation of role of pharmacist.

Appointment of MMUH Pharmacists as honorary lecturers of the RCSI, inclusion in faculty events.

3. Expert input into MMUH practice research.

4. Enhanced profile of the pharmacy department within the hospital and nationally-including input into new body for competency development of Irish pharmacists.

SECTION 6: EAHP EDUCATION AND RESEARCH STATEMENTS

should include experience of hospital pharmacy practice. The role of all hospital healthcare practitioners, including hospital pharmacists, should be integrated into the curricula of other health professionals.

All those involved in medicines use processes must be able to demonstrate

their competency in their roles. Hospital pharmacists should participate in the development of European-wide competency frameworks to ensure standards of best practice are met.

- Undergraduate pharmacy curricula | 6.3 A European-wide framework for initial post graduate education and training in hospital pharmacy with an assessment of individual competence is essential. In addition, hospital pharmacists should engage in relevant educational opportunities at all stages of their career.
 - Hospital pharmacists should actively engage in and publish research, particularly on hospital pharmacy practice. Research methods should be part of undergraduate and postgraduate training programmes for hospital pharmacists.

This synergistic collaboration has addressed an unmet need in Irish pharmacy undergraduate education. It is resources. This innovation will equip pharmacy students to be the patient centred professionals of the future, ensuring that patients are supported to the fullest extent by educated, competent and empathetic pharmacists. It has also provided career enhancement and development for hospital pharmacists who have been positive about the opportunity to pass on knowledge of their specialist areas to the students. This model is being adopted by other hospital pharmacies and also gives a structure which can be used to meet the challenge of implementing the new fully integrated pharmacy course