Placement profile

Names and roles	Angela Charnock & Joy Eccles, Clinical Specialist Physiotherapists - Pain Team
Organisations	Pain Team - Central Lancashire Moving Well Service, Lancashire & South Cumbria NHS Trust

Placement overview

Historically pain management student placements were rare as it was thought that students needed to establish their MSK knowledge first and that pain was too complex. What we now understand and appreciate is that pain placements can enhance MSK and other areas within physiotherapy. A lot of planning went into this placement to ensure that the student was set up digitally but also to ensure that appropriate supervision and learning opportunities were in place throughout. Alongside the student having a placement project to complete on digital patient reported outcome measures, we also provided patient contact as we felt this invaluable to experience pain management in 'real life'. Working digitally, the student has been able to work alongside the whole of our multidisciplinary team seamlessly. On a weekly basis, the student has been able to sit in on the MDT meetings via MS Teams to listen and participate in patient case discussion. Patient appointments have been completed with either an online Attend Anywhere platform or via telephone consultation. Training sessions have been available online and we have signposted the student to resources on our website and also external sessions from Flippin Pain, etc. All university tutor discussions have been completed online which has streamlined the approach and allowed greater communication and adaptable support when required. The student has fed back that they have benefitted clinically from this placement and despite the new way of remote working, they have felt continually supported and part of the team. They also feel that the pain management experience they have gained will help them form a strong basis for all future work.

Supervision: Face to face, 1:1, long armed supervision, Inter-professional supervision

Lessons learnt:

1. That organisation and planning are key!
2. Ensure that all digital requirements are set up in advance with IT
3. Regular communication is vital - the virtual working world can be lonely.

Top tips for others:

- Consider having a project running alongside the clinical work so if there is any down time from clinical time the student always has something to be getting on with. This gives the student some independent work but also gives clinicians some well needed breaks if