Audiology Student Views on Shared Decision Making

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Introduction

- Shared decision making is a core component in Audiology appointments (Légaré et al., 2018)
- Students are taught patient centred care principles as part of their clinical training (Pryce and Hall, 2014)

Methods

- Focus groups were conducted across different BSc cohorts; apprentices already in the workplace, final year standard route students, and Year 1 and Year 2 students combined
- Thematic analysis was used to analyse the transcripts

Results

“My understanding of shared decision making is especially in the context of a clinic, we as a clinician are dictated by what the patient needs to do, it’s a shared journey, it’s their care, they have a say in their own healthcare so we need to give them enough information to make an informed decision and guide them in that direction.” (Apprentice Student)

Fig. 1: A diagram of a student understanding of shared decision making

Discussion

- Students across the various groups held key principles on shared decision-making.
- The findings showcase the importance of experiential learning through practice and observation.
- Students with more clinical experience were able to draw upon wider resources for use with patients.
- Students in early years of the course were keen to develop their clinical practice and to work with patients.

References


Teaching sessions on the creation of decision aids, tools and research processes, in addition to clinical practice, are key to developing person-centred clinicians.