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The Agency of Public, Patient and Carer Involvement in Health and Social Care Education

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Dr Christine Rhodes

Acknowledge the contribution of colleagues – service users and carers, students and staff
Key findings from a range of studies

In Depth Critique
- Narratives
- Concept Analysis

Theoretical Underpinnings
- What matters to US
- Interviewing

Key Stakeholder Perspectives
- Case study on embedding
- Supporting Commentary
Enhances student learning and influences future practice

Service user involvement brings something that you cannot learn in a text book, that you cannot learn in a lecture, you learn from the person who has dealt with it day in day out, real people, with a real situation in real life.
Positive outcomes for service users and carers

Being involved helped me learn about myself, put things in perspective, gave me a sense of purpose and belonging, has enhanced my life and given me more than I could have ever imagined.
Agency of the key stakeholders is tantamount to its success

- Individual agency – acting on own behalf
- Collective agency – when people act together
Agency: Professional & Intellectual

Inspiring tomorrow’s professionals
Well-developed infrastructure to recognise complexities of involvement

Key stakeholders working in partnership

- service users and carers
- practitioners
- academics
- students

Inspiring tomorrow’s professionals
Theoretical underpinnings - critical social theory and democratic approaches

Collaboration

Participation

Liberation

Collective

Working with
The Approaches to Involvement Continuum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tokenistic</th>
<th>Consultative</th>
<th>Participatory</th>
<th>Partnership/collaborative</th>
<th>Emancipatory</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Superficial involvement, ad hoc, used, not included</td>
<td>Deliberation, discussion. Exchange of views and opinions. Gaining information</td>
<td>Contribution to planning and decisions. Sharing and taking part.</td>
<td>Equal status, joint working. Team – working as equal partners.</td>
<td>Service user and carer led. Freedom from restrictions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Learning is a Joint Endeavour

Service Users and Carers

Academics

Students

Practitioners
Conclusion

• Involvement is an increasingly important domain in health and social care education
• Essential that we have joined up action and collaboration
• Time to redefine what we value as knowledge
• Need to consider involvement as equal to other teaching and learning strategies to allow it to become a core component of the curriculum.
Purpose – partnership approach