



Clinical practice in  
interdisciplinary student teams  
a collaboration project



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## Background

- Mutual interests for hospital and teaching institutions
- Need for hospital beds
- Need for clinical placements
- Need for efficient patient processes – treatment chains

## Purpose

Develop a clinical education ward where interdisciplinary teamwork between student and staff give students:

## Purpose continue

- experience in teamwork
- training in own profession
- understanding of other professions.
- improve patient care
- learn together in order to be able to work together

### Relevance

- Interdisciplinary teamwork essential in patient care and a great challenge in health care
- Prepare students to work with patient care in a complex organization

### What is new / different?

- Organized interdisciplinary clinical practice for multidisciplinary students
- Mutual meetings for multidisciplinary staff from hospital and Oslo university college .
- Students learn to work together in a clinical educational setting

### Similar projects

- Linköping, Sweden since 1996-
- Bergen, Norway, 2000-01, discontinued after 1 year

### Pilot project

- Project manager
- Staff
- Supervisors
- Students
- 14 beds – medical ward
- Contracts – clarification of responsibilities

### Participating student groups

- Physiotherapy students
- Nursing students
- Occupational therapy students

### Economy

- Re-allocating staff and resources
- Renovation of a vacant ward
- Some new equipment

### Aims for all students

- Experience interdisciplinary team work
- Understand other health professions
- Experience organizing daily work
- Develop independency
- Practice own profession

### Meeting points

- Daily interdisciplinary preround
- Indepth interdisciplinary meetings
- Reflectiongroup twice a week
- Peer teaching and tematized lecturers once a week



### Recurring issues

- Understanding the concepts of:
  - interdisciplinary work
  - rehabilitation
- Common assessment tools
- Communication skills

### Challenges in interdisciplinary work

- Different cultures (-"the way we do things here) between and nature of:
  - professional groups
  - hospital and teaching institution
- Professional competition

### What's in it for the patients?

- Common goals promote efficient treatment
- Focus on attitudes increases awareness of communication skills
- A flat collaboration structure promotes equality

### What's in it for the students

They learn to:

- see their own strength and limitations
- justify their views and choices
- collaborate in practice
- appreciate the work of other professionals and knowledge of their field
- organize their time

### What's in it for the students continue

- Develop professional identity
- Broaden their view on health care

### Evaluation

- Patient survey
- Group interview of staff and supervisors
- Group interview of students

### Conclusion

- Patients were satisfied
- Students take and are given more responsibility in caring for their patients
- Responsible for presenting own profession
- Responsible and chairing multidisciplinary meetings
- Leadership experience

### In order to succeed

- Selection of ward and patients.
- Supervisors
- Commitment and continuity in the collaboration between the hospital and teaching institutions
- Low turnover of staff

### Today

- In operation - no longer a project
- 22 beds
- 32 students
- Continuous improvement

### Will it make an impact?

- Healthcare professions of tomorrow must learn interdisciplinary teamwork in order to give best help / service to their patients
- Better collaboration between future co-workers

### Vision

Increase focus on research and development

- Clinical research
- Pedagogical research
- Collaboration projects between hospital and teaching institutions