

Abstract for SIT and OP - Making a Better World: Research and Teaching

Aim/Purpose of the study-

To evaluate an assessment where students work together in groups creating videos undertaking midwifery practice skills in simulated practice situations. Students reflect on and assess themselves against specific marking criteria for communication, skill performance and documentation. Videos and documents are uploaded and shared with midwifery lecturers who moderate the students' mark. The first step was to evaluate the students' experience of the assessment. The second step will be to seek feedback from staff involved in moderating the students work. The aim of the research is to identify areas for improvement in the assessment process and to provide evidence to be shared with others interested in developing a similar assessment strategy.

Research design-

Survey research design was used for the first step in the research process. Approval for the research was granted from the Otago Polytechnic Ethics committee (OPREC,# 591). The survey tool was developed in line with the aims of the research project. It had three sections; demographics, student experience of the VAMPS process and student overall experience of the assessment. Students were asked to select a response on a five point Likert scale. They were given an opportunity to provide comments in a text box at the end of each block of questions. For the next step in this research we plan to conduct two focus groups using semi structured interviews with staff involved in the video assessment.

Major findings-

Students identified positive aspects of the assessment as well as challenges. They recognised learning which occurred through repetition of skills and benefits from being able to complete the assessment in their own local area. Challenges related mostly to the use of computer and communication technology required for the assessment.