Discussion document - Practice education in line with the needs of the profession of tomorrow

Part 2 - online in real time Friday 9th and Saturday 10th October 2020
Discussion document – Practice education in line with the needs of the profession of tomorrow – Education Matters WG

Background

Practice education (in the past it was generally referred to as clinical education, but practice education is increasingly more commonly used to reflect all placement settings) is a vital component of the physiotherapy entry level programme. It has a major impact on the professional development of an individual and their professional practice. Despite research demonstrating the value of practice education, it is still understudied in terms of evidence or how it should be organised to maximise the outcomes. The content, format and amount of practice education required varies across universities, depending on the national standards of education and quality assurance processes and is often based on historical practices.

There are many interpretations and challenges of the professional reality that need to be understood in order to strengthen and improve the acquisition of the necessary clinical professional competencies. This will ensure that as a profession we can provide qualified autonomous professionals to society to respond to population demands. While there are opportunities and barriers there is a need for discussions for future solutions and innovations in practice education.

Purpose:

* To identify common important factors/issues of relevance for a high standard practice education in relation to professional practice, and
* To share experiences and ideas about the current opportunities and barriers in order to meet the future needs of society.

Discussion session schedule:

1. INTRODUCTION BY FACILITATOR 5 minutes: e.g. definitions, World Physiotherapy background documents.
2. DISCUSSION: in smaller groups of maximum 5 people, 35 minutes across the MOs according to three questions about the topic.
   The outcomes of the discussions will be summarised by the WG members and presented to the full meeting on the second day.
References:

- World Physiotherapy guideline for the clinical education component of the physical therapist professional entry-level programme, 2011)


