

6/2020

Primary Health Care  
<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/primaryhealthcare>



@capcteaching

## Teaching Newsletter

Bristol Medical School, 1st Floor, 5 Tyndall Avenue, Bristol, BS8 1UD  
Tel: 0117 42 82987 phc-

**Now recruiting GP Teachers**

Dear GP Teachers,

We hope that you are managing to stay well.

Apart from putting us all at risk of serious illness and into lock down, the pandemic is also playing havoc with our medical students' education. Their clinical placements were cut short in the last term of this academic year and there is much uncertainty around clinical learning in the next academic year.

In Primary Care we are planning to go ahead with delivering the content for years 1-5 as planned, while accepting that the state of the pandemic will dictate whether this will be f2f or online learning.

We're now recruiting practices for the 2020-21 academic year. You should have already received an email about this. If you haven't, and are interested in teaching in your practice, please email [phc-teaching@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:phc-teaching@bristol.ac.uk)

We would like practices to commit to teaching on the same days as usual in the knowledge that this may be face-to-face or online depending on how the pandemic progresses. We will pay practices the same rate, regardless of the method of teaching. We will also provide training in delivering online teaching should this be necessary.



Our students need us more than ever to help them negotiate their educational path through this crisis. Please consider signing up.

Many thanks in advance from all of us in Primary Care

### Want to know more about the new Year 4?

Join our **online Year 4 GP Teacher workshop on Wed. 3rd June from 8-9pm**. For details and booking, email [phc-teaching@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:phc-teaching@bristol.ac.uk)

**DON'T MISS!**

### Remote consultations? How can students learn from that?

Prof. Thompson sharing his experience and reflections on p2

### On page 3

Two Bristol fourth year students published in BJGP Life on helping in GP in the early phase of the pandemic

Student well being resources collated by Juliet Brown

Reflections on consulting by John Launer in the BMJ

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## Clinical teaching when the patient isn't in the room From Prof. Trevor Thompson, Head of Primary Care teaching

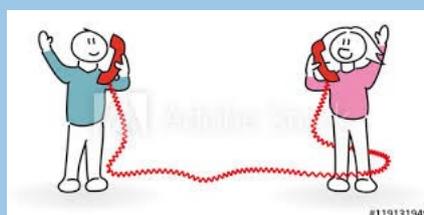
I had a student with me in practice for an afternoon this week. More accurately our new paramedic on induction. It was a useful exercise for focusing the mind on the realities of teaching in the Time of Covid. A certain pragmatism is called for. Owing to the dimensions of my consulting room it was not possible for James and I to remain 2m apart. It was possible for us to remain 1m apart, not to physically touch and for me to be confident our new member of staff was currently in good physical health. There is a thing going round that students' ability to learn medicine is severely limited when most of the time we are on the phones. I held this view myself - until this week. But in the actuality this turned out to be a cracking session.

Why? First of all we, like most practices in the land, are not as busy as usual. Picking up yes, but no matter how complex the scenario, telephone is a bit quicker. So we had time to discuss the cases as they came up. I could mute the mic and share perspectives during the consults - which is not usually an option. Also I had James on the interweb looking stuff up and rifling the BNF - other things not normally possible. Maybe it's just me, but every case seems to come with a range of complications, dilemmas and interesting things to think about. I diagnosed a "cannabinoid hyperemesis syndrome", a father of two adult children with CF shared his pain at having (literally) not left the house since March, a patient with a clotting disorder wondered if we would supply him with strips for his CoaguChek meter so he could sort his INRs from home (the hospital was already on side).



So .... I feel more optimistic than I did that students can learn a lot with us even now. There are plenty of opportunities for them to get on the phones themselves and not necessarily under direct supervision - e.g. via support calls to the shielded. Reading this you will have already received our invitation letters for teaching in 2020-2021. We are hoping that business will be approaching normal by next term but my team have been working hard to support you if our fortunes reverse and we need to revert to fully online delivery. Though probably a poor relation, I have also had surprisingly positive recent experience with delivering our "Effective Consulting" lectures online. Attendance up by 50%, loads of interaction (including with a "live" patient) and a greater sense of individual student engagement. As one student reflects *"the interactive format brings out the best in us....people have much less inclination to fall asleep or scroll Facebook, as the learning is directly in front of us and we have to engage"*

Our focus now is to provide a rich Primary Care experience for 2020-21 - including with our all-new Y4 "Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship" where students come one day per week through out the year. Please can I encourage you to sign up via the "BOS" surveys? Teaching enriches our practice culture, keeps us on our toes clinically and of course is vital to the sustainability of General Practice.



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## Fourth year students helping with the pandemic in GP

**Aaron Shaughnessy** and **Elizabeth Wasson**, two Bristol fourth year students published their reflections on helping in a GP practice during the initial phase of the pandemic in BJGP Life.

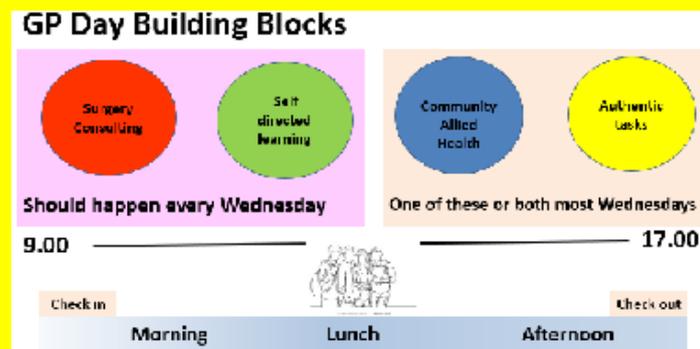
*We are two fourth-year students currently working in a rural primary care network and initially began in supportive roles within the reception team. However, as the practice's needs have changed, we have been able to help with a variety of tasks such as rapid online triaging of patient requests and helping to coordinate the vulnerability letter response, using our knowledge as medical students to collate patient records and, with GP sign off, assess vulnerability. We have gained a great deal over the past few weeks and are proud that our work has been of benefit to the surgery in this difficult time. Therefore, we argue that incorporating medical students into general practice can be of great benefit to both parties.*

To read the full article click here

<https://bjgplife.com/2020/05/13/medical-students-an-asset-to-the-primary-care-team-in-crisis/>

## Year 4 students as members of your team

Aaron and Lizzie show the benefit to student learning and the practice when students become engaged in the work of the practice and are trusted with authentic tasks. This is part of the plan for MB21 Year 4: authentic tasks are one of the 'building blocks' for Wednesdays (see schematic). If you want to know more, join one of our online GP teacher workshops. The next one is on 3rd June. Email [phc-teaching@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:phc-teaching@bristol.ac.uk)



## Wellbeing for students Juliet Brown's collated resources

<https://sway.office.com/TQ8cWxFwbmX89Enu?ref=email>

## Thoughts on consulting

**Digging holes and weaving tapestries** reflections by John Launer in the BMJ at

<https://pmj.bmj.com/content/96/1135/307.full>