

Placement profile

Names and roles Dr Sarah Elliott, consultant physiotherapist specialising in critical care and critical care follow up.

Organisations Medway Maritime Hospital



Placement overview

We trialled a research and rehabilitation placement. The time was split into 50/50 project work and clinical and involved both remote working and time at the hospital. The student completed basic research training with myself including her Good Clinical Practice (GCP) certificate; this allowed her to participate in screening and delivering interventions in a national trial (EMPRESS) we are participating in delivering early mobilisation in critical care. The student was also assigned her own audit and service evaluation which looked at compliance of completing the critical care pathway paperwork and making improvements – as this related directly to critical care, the student experienced completing the pathways herself both in acute care and follow up clinic which helped to give context. Assistance was gained from both our audit, transformation and research team to complete this. The student was also involved in another exploratory student project involving OT apprenticeships in respect to data analysis and is still working with us on this as we compile a paper for submission. In respect to clinical work; most time was spent on critical care but she also had exposure to acute wards and experienced weekend working.

Supervision: 1:1

Lessons learnt:

1. You can make research relevant for student placements which enhances their clinical and communication skills.
2. Link the research and clinical together so it is in context
3. Its amazing what you can achieve in six weeks. Neither myself or the student felt they lacked hands on time with the patients

Top tips for others:

- Take time to plan ahead.
- Utilise the wider hospital team such as transformation, research and audit teams.
- Enjoy, step outside your comfort zone and it is great to watch the students develop.