

# Working in Partnership : Education providers and Healthcare agencies

Dr Judith Needham and Ms Valda Frommolt  
Griffith University

## Description:

PRACTICAL STRATEGIES TO ASSIST HEALTH CARE EDUCATORS IN COLLABORATING WITH EDUCATION PROVIDERS WILL SUPPORT STUDENT NURSES NAVIGATE WORK ENVIRONMENTS AND OPTIMISE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES AND OUTCOMES

## Outcome:

Undergraduate nursing clinical placements otherwise known as work integrated learning, is an essential element of undergraduate nurse education programs to provide real life experiences (Henderson, Cooke, Creedy & Walker, 2012). An important consideration is that education providers and healthcare educators work in collaboration to provide the best possible experience in placements for the students

## Discussion:

Student success on clinical placement influenced by

- Preparedness by education provider
- Healthcare agency having a clear understanding of learning outcomes and expectations
- Preparation of student re: completion of mandatory requirements and agency orientation requirements
- Clear understanding of assessment processes by both student and healthcare agencies

## What has been done:

- Open transparent communication
- Face to face meetings
- Skype meetings between course convenor and clinical facilitators
- Regular email contact with telephone follow-up
- Online SONIA database readily accessible for assessment
- Clinical facilitator and student guidelines updated yearly and provided to healthcare facility
- Students with learning deficits identified promptly and collaboratively addressed with course convenors, clinical facilitators and educators
- Feedback from students regarding their placement is provided to healthcare facilities and dealt with in a timely confidential manner

## Conclusions:

What is clear from the literature and the authors experience is that health care agencies require support and education from the education providers in understanding education expectations in both supervision and assessment of the student.

Providing strategies to assist with collaboration between both Healthcare and education providers , highlights a need for both education providers and healthcare agencies to work together to support staff in their efforts to allow students to be work ready

