

Bleep day – Education Tool for Medical Undergraduates to Increase Exposure to Emergency Care

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Medical education aims to prepare students for their role as doctors. Current literature suggests graduates are insufficiently prepared to provide immediate care in emergency situations. Increasing exposure to medical emergencies is shown to improve preparation of newly qualified doctors for these scenarios.

Each medical student was allocated a ‘Bleep Day’. They were provided with an on-call bleep which received hospital-wide medical emergency calls. Pre- and post- questionnaires were designed to assess prior experience, experience gained and its effect on confidence and preparation for on-call shifts and medical emergency calls as a newly qualified doctor.

Prior to the programme, 59% of respondents had never witnessed a medical emergency. On their allocated day, 60% of respondents attended at least one medical emergency. Of those, 44% attended at least two calls. The mean confidence improved from 1.9 to 3.5 stars. 5. 100% of respondents feel more prepared for on-call shifts and 88% feel more confident approaching a medical emergency.

Implementing ‘Bleep Day’ improved the confidence of our medical undergraduates regarding their approach to medical emergency care and helped prepare them for their role as newly qualified doctors. This educational tool should be widely employed to help train our doctors of tomorrow.

Biography

Andrew Robinson has completed his Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery at the age of 24 years including an intercalated Bachelor of Anatomical Sciences with honors in the first class. Both completed at the University of Manchester. He is currently working as a junior clinical fellow in orthopedic surgery at Imperial NHS Healthcare trust in London.

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