

Finding your feet

student participation during initiation of international clinical placements

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'Finding your feet':

student participation during initiation of international clinical placements

Miriam Wijbenga, Robbert Duvivier, Dale Sheehan, Stephan Ramaekers, Pim Teunissen, Erik Driessen

INTRO

- International placements challenge students to find the right level of participation in patient-related tasks or team activities.
- Unpacking the initiation process during international clinical placements

METHODS

- Qualitative research
- 15 undergraduate healthcare students
- 2 interview rounds (before and during placement)
- Iterative process of data collection and constant comparative analysis

RESULTS

- We have developed a four-phase model of international students' initiation of international clinical placements
- Theoretical model grounded in theory
- 'Orientation', 'adjustment' and 'contribution to patient care' build up towards a 'sense of belonging'
- Factors that induced active student participation in practice included a favourable workplace setting, opportunities for learning and a local support network.

DISCUSSION

- Active student participation is aimed at different goals, depending on the four phases of initiation that eventually lead to a sense of belonging and support workplace learning.

Healthcare students engagement during initiation of international placements is aimed at different goals

