

## 'To be or not to be' development of a theatre placement app for undergraduate nursing students

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### Abstract:

Students have indicated that they find the decision of where to go for elective placement difficult as they do not have enough information on what placements are available or even what type of nursing/ learning environment they would be working in. One area that students find especially difficult to identify learning opportunities is the perioperative environment. Apart from the lack of knowledge regarding learning opportunities, the uniform worn by staff and the highly technical equipment can be daunting and can often perturb a student from pursuing this placement experience further.

In response to this problem we created a software application that showcased what this sometimes alien environment looks like and the equipment and staff that work there could potentially allay student fears and anxiety. The creation of an app could potentially promote the theatre environment as a learning opportunity for students to explore and learn in as well as allay the fears and anxieties felt by student's prior to placement commencing. Clinical

### Biography:

Dr Karen McCutcheon is a registered nurse and a senior lecturer at Queen's University Belfast, School of Nursing and Midwifery. She is responsible for anaesthetic, perioperative and ophthalmic nurse training and is the Director of Education for undergraduate nursing and midwifery. She has published widely in the field of healthcare and education and is the editor of the Journal of Perioperative Practice and is a clinical nurse section editor for BMJ.

Practice colleagues were also keen to explore the promotion of this area to our nursing student population with the aim of promoting post registration job applications to this area. This presentation will discuss the project development of a theatre placement app following a logic model approach

5<sup>th</sup> World Congress on  
Nursing Education & Research Vancouver, Canada-  
September 25-26, 2020.

### Abstract Citation:

Karen McCutcheon; 'To be or not to be' development of a theatre placement app for undergraduate nursing students

