

Abstract for CDN 2022.

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Title: Nurse educators' experiences of preparing and supporting nursing students for clinical placements in nursing homes: Preliminary results from an IPA study.

Objectives: The increase in life expectancy and growing population of older people worldwide creates an urgency for healthcare to provide nurses that are equipped to manage people with multiple complex conditions. Despite this, evidence shows that nursing home placements are viewed unfavourably by nursing students. Whilst academic nurse educators are well placed to facilitate a change in students' views, little is known about their experiences in preparing and supporting nursing students undertaking nursing home placements.

Study design: This study used Interpretative phenomenological analysis as a methodological approach to explore the experiences of academic nurse educators.

Methods: Social media were used to recruit participants. Eight educators were purposefully selected according to specific sampling criteria. Semi structured interviews were conducted with academic nurse educators who had experience of preparing and supporting nursing students in nursing home placements.

Results: The preliminary analysis of 8 interview transcripts revealed 3 main themes relating to educators' experiences of preparing and supporting nursing home placements. Nurse educators placed emphasis on the nursing home as a placement provider, the effect that the nursing curriculum has on perceptions of clinical placement in nursing homes, and the students' needs and expectations of their clinical placement experiences.

Conclusions: The preliminary findings suggest that although nurse educators regularly experience 'push back' from students when assigned a nursing home placement, with the right support and information, student placements in nursing homes are as valuable as hospital placements in meeting students' needs and expectations. Successful nursing home placements are enhanced through the enthusiasm of academics that are experienced in nursing home practice, able to build connections to the adult nursing curriculum and form trusting relationships with nursing home staff.