

Students in Difficulty Or "How can we best support our students on clinical attachments?"

Facilitators: Deborah Finn & Alison Threlfall

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Liverpool Educators Online

Access resources, support and useful information for supporting our students on the School of Medicine's MBChB programme. Everything you used to find in GPORT – and more!



liverpool.ac.uk/medicine/liverpool-educators-online



Aims of Session

- To identify what a 'difficulty' is!
- To understand more about the support systems in place for students
- How do I raise concerns?
- Academic/ Professional/Pastoral/Psychological Concerns
- Medical School Wellbeing Team
- Useful Contact Numbers
- Share personal experiences!



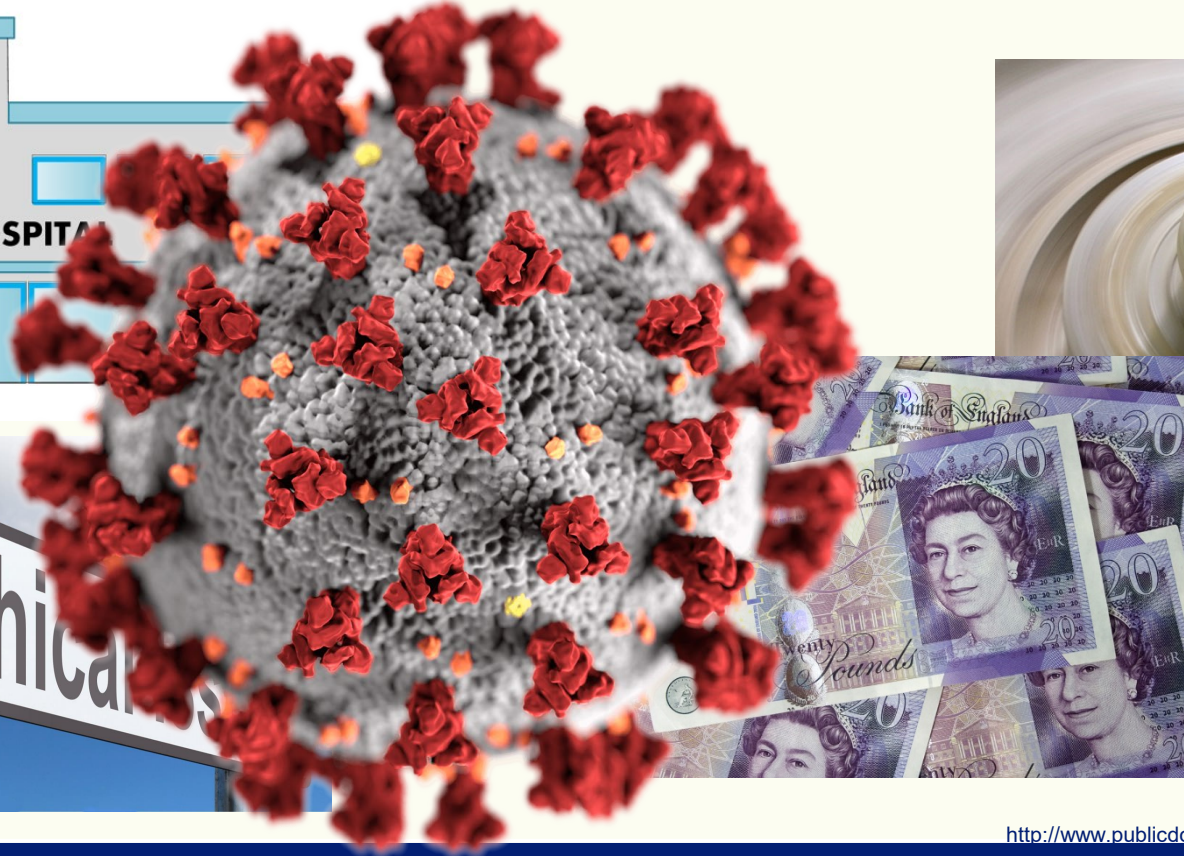
Potential challenges to student wellbeing

- Personal life stressors
- Illness – own or family
- Bereavement
- Personal relationships
- Financial hardship
- Transitions



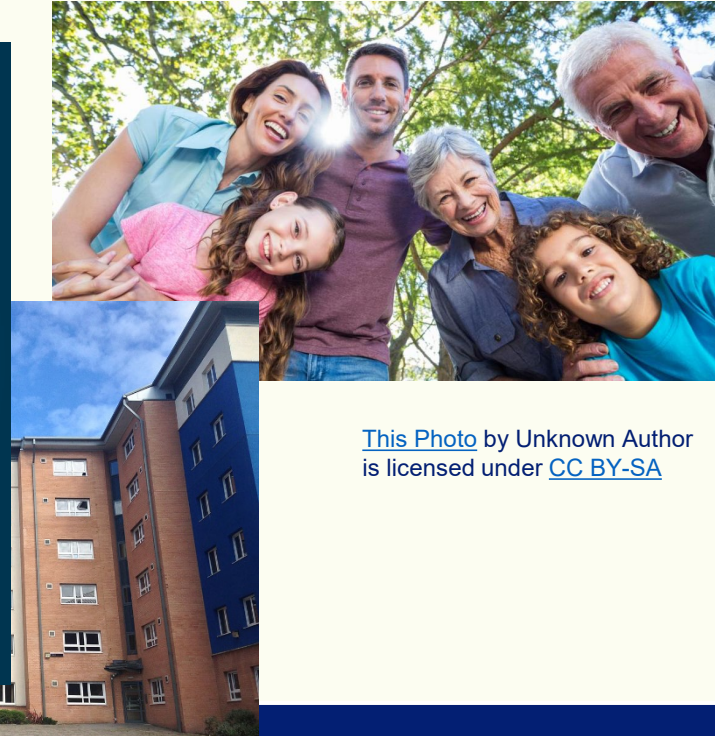
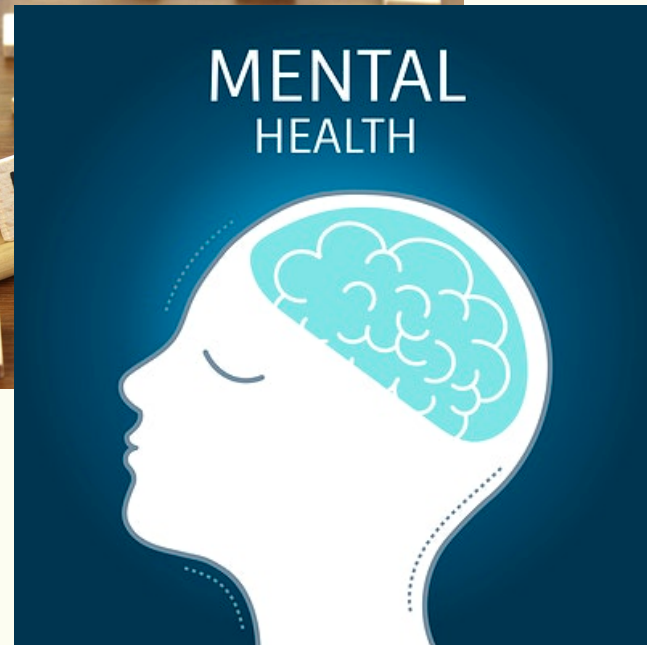
Why are we special?

Potential challenges to student doctor wellbeing



<http://www.publicdomainpictures.net/pictures/10000/velka/11196597456EowFP.jpg>

What do you feel are the main wellbeing issues faced by students?



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Professionalism

**Lack of
engagement**

**Social media
Mis-use**

**Challenging
behaviour**

**Breach of
confidentiality**

**Failure to
obtain consent**

**Neglect of
admin**

**Misuse of
Alcohol/drugs**

**Failure to act
appropriately
regarding own
health**

Dishonesty



Support Services Overview

Request for wellbeing support from:



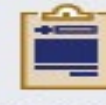
Student



Student family
expressing concern



Member of staff
(e.g. Academic Adviser)



Other route (e.g. extenuating
circumstances application)



Medicine wellbeing team contacts student to offer wellbeing appointment



Support in the School of Medicine
 • Appointment with Wellbeing Advisor
 • Appointment with School of Medicine Wellbeing Academic



Support services in central University e.g.
 • Student Welfare Advice & Guidance
 • Counselling Service
 • Mental Health Advisory Service;
 • Disability Advice & Guidance



Support services outside of University e.g.
 • Student Health Service
 • GP
 • Talk Liverpool
 • Other organisations

Guide to Wellbeing Services for Student Doctors

July 2020



Promoting Proactive ways to stay well



Academic Concerns

- Can be difficult to assess confidently with the first couple of students!
- Performance by the students can be expected to improve as you move through the academic year
- Academic performance is assessed via:
 - Educational supervisor (you): Completion and Review of the ePortfolio (including your feedback comments)
 - Academic Advisor
 - Progression Panel Review



Academic Advisor Meetings

- A 'quality' conversation with the student, assessing their progress and experience.
- Two formal meetings per year. (November and March/April)
- E-portfolio used to log progress, feedback and student reflections.
- 'Not Complete' may lead to review by Progression Panel.
- AA's can also refer students to the Medical Wellbeing Team for pastoral issues.
- Wellbeing Team may activate a 'Transfer of Information' Plan which allows sharing of information with clinical placements



What to do if you have concerns?

- Speak to the student directly yourself
- Describe what you have observed and try to be factual
- Ask the students to share their thoughts and concerns and how they feel it could be remedied
- Provide feedback on how to improve performance and clear advice on how this will be monitored
- If this does not help complete the sharing concerns form via GPORT/LEO /pebble pad in link Tutor handbook
- If serious concerns contact the year leads via email or phone
- All absences should be reported



If you have continued concerns

- Use your GP Tutor Feedback Form to raise concerns (pebble pad).
- Escalate the problem early.
- Try to be specific and, if possible, give examples.
- Be honest with the student about their performance as they will be able to see your feedback.
- Every feedback form that is completed is read by their AA



Sharing concerns form

Available on :

<https://liverpool.ac.uk/medicine/liverpool-educators-online>

<https://liverpool.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/sharing-concerns-form>

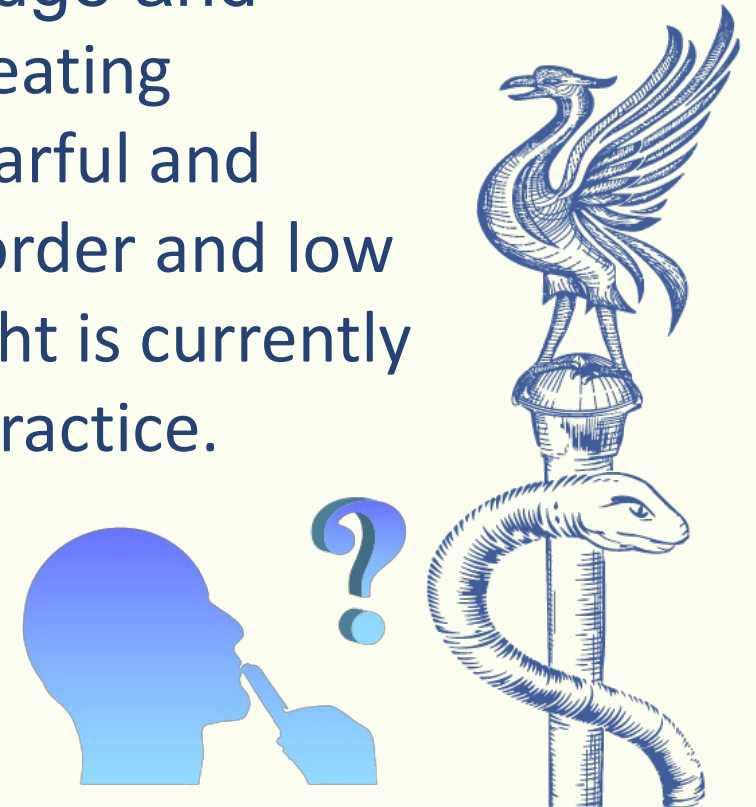


Group Discussion on previous experiences

- What sort of problems have you experienced with your own students?
- How did you deal with them at the time?
- Did you feel that you were able to do so in house
- Or if you needed to inform the medical school was the support provided helpful.

Case Scenario

- A third year student has been with you for a couple of weeks. At times you have noticed that she appears on edge and anxious. After a consultation with a patient with an eating disorder, the student becomes very distressed and tearful and discloses that she too is struggling with an eating disorder and low mood. She asks you not to tell the School as her weight is currently fine and she is worried she will be deemed unfit for practice.
- What do you do?



Case Scenario

- A Year 4 student is placed at your practice. He appears popular with both the staff and patients, but you are concerned about the level of his clinical knowledge. This is the first year that your practice has hosted students and so you don't have many previous students to compare him to. He is due to sit his final examinations in four months and you are concerned that he does not know about the management of hypertension and declined examining a patient's knee as he said that he has never been taught this skill.



Thank you.

Any Questions?

School of Medicine

Student Welfare and Support for Studies Team:

Room 2.26 in Cedar House

Tel: 0151 7948756

Email: wellbeing.mbchb@liverpool.ac.uk

