Postgraduate student perceptions and experiences of academy model clinical ultrasound training in Scotland



Dr Diane M. Dickson (PI), Head of Department for Podiatry and Radiography Morgyn Sneddon (Co-I), Lecturer in Diagnostic Imaging

University for the Common Good

1.Background

The National Ultrasound Training programme (NUPT) is a new initiative based within the NHS Scotland Academy to support clinical ultrasound training and boost training numbers in response to workforce decline and increased demand on service. NHS Scotland Health boards are being supported for funding of trainees from Scottish Government directed by the NHS Recovery Plan 2021-2026 ¹. Clinical training is a key component in the

National Education Scotland **National** Glasgow Caledonian Scottish Ultrasound Government University Training Programme (NUTP) NHS Golden NHS Jubilee Scotland National Academy Hospital

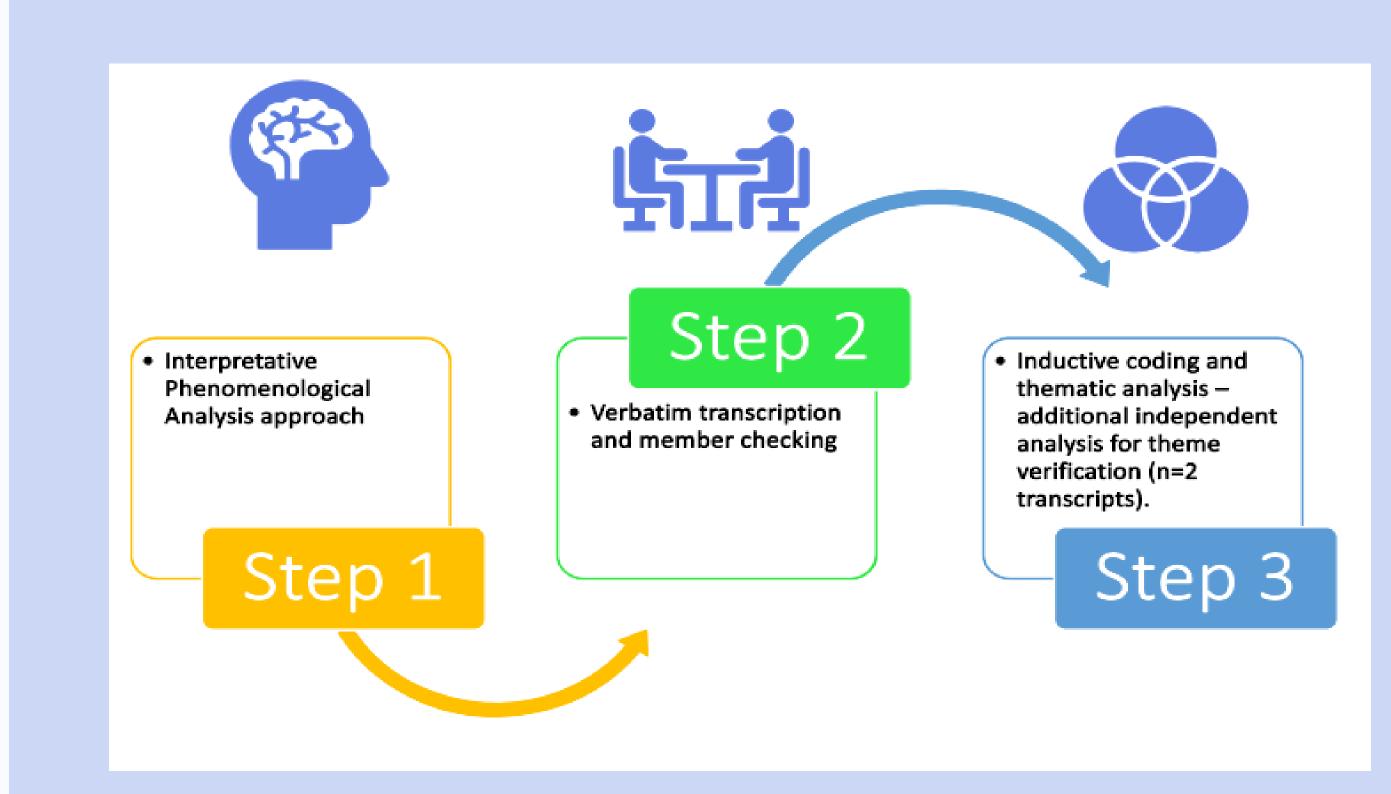
Supporting NHS Scotland to Re-mobilise, Recover, and Redesign development of ultrasound competency

and is heavily supported by NHS board clinical staff in their role as mentor/practice educator.

This study will explore the perceptions and experiences of the first cohort of students who attended clinical training within the NUTP.

<u>Identifying potential opportunities and challenges will provide evidence-based recommendation for future enhancements.</u>

4. Data Analysis



Four themes identified relating to Health Board and NUTP training with exemplar quotes.

2. Study Aims



Overall Aim

To explore postgraduate medical Ultrasound student and mentor perceptions and experiences of academy model clinical ultrasound training in Scotland.



Primary Objective

What are current student and mentor perceptions and experiences of the National Ultrasound Training Programme in Scotland?



Secondary Objective

What recommendations can be made to enhance the National Ultrasound Training Programme approach in supporting high-quality ultrasound training?

5. Themes

"I was really

stressed out

thinking I'm not

right thing" "I

found it really

difficult going

health Board

there a

end"

back to being a

student" "In the

knowledge that

you are all going

to have to work

together at the

sure I've done the

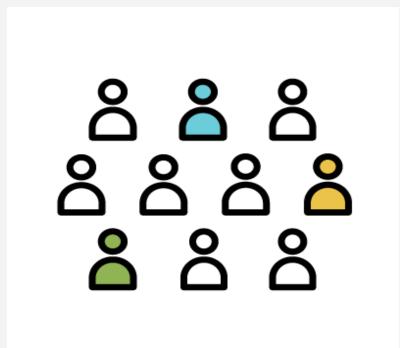
"takes the pressure of health boards" "its good for them (mentors/practice educators) to have a break" "I think they (health board mentor/practice educators) are taking expertise from us form the academy (NUTP) so it's a positive all round for everyone." NUTP-"getting hints and tips from everyone has allowed me to decide what works for me" "its (NUTP) good for confidence levels. I had more mental capacity"

Health Board-"its quite hard to

judge where you are at if you are the only one training" "inpatient scanning is the biggest challenge"

NUTP- "it's a more controlled environment" "you don't need to worry about holding people up" "there's time to try different approaches" "normal scans on outpatients are ideal to learn" "mentors are less stressed"

3. Methods



Population & recruitment

Scottish Health board Ultrasound trainees who attending the NUTP for part of their clinical training.

Institutional Ethical approval: HLS/ PSWAHS/21/213 to recruit via virtual learning environment.



Data collection:

5 trainees from 3 Scottish Health Boards were Recruited.

1-2-1 semi-structured video-based interview.

"it was quite late getting things organised and me released from my other role"
"NUTP staff are welcoming and that's so important as trainee" "found it difficult that people do things differently" "...include health board mentors (in NUTP), I didn't want to offend anyone and felt they were a wee bit put out"

Health Board- "found it really stressful" "time pressures" "everything is rushed" "HB mentors are enthusiastic but it's a smaller part of their role" "I see a lot of pathology which is good for learning"

7. Recommendations

First study to provide evidence-based recommendations based on student experiences.

As an adjunct to Health Board training, the NUTP should be made available to all Scottish Health board trainees:

To provide dedicated training lists

To support a positive learning environment

To support development of skills and confidence



Diane.Dickson@gcu.ac.uk Morgyn.Sneddon@gcu.ac.uk



@gcudiane @Gcumorgyn



@GCUUltrasound

