STRENGTHENING WELLBEING IN MEDICAL EDUCATION; WHAT WORKS? CONSEQUENCES, INTENTIONAL AND UNINTENTIONAL

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BACKGROUND





BEING A DOCTOR: STAYING A PERSON



METHOD

Cohort of Year 3 Medical Students

Workshop (2hr)

8-week clinical placement

Workshop (2hr)

Explore personal values, assumptions, emotional labour and emotions

Inter-workshop learning – In-action-reflection based on guided individual observation tasks.

Complete and submit a **change story**

Integrate change stories, emotions, positivity, emotional intelligence

Feedback - to evaluate and inform iterations

- Formal, written
- Anonymous
- Collected after the 2nd Workshop

RESULTS

Programme delivered to all 3rd year students over 3 years

Iterative evolution responding to feedback

Analysed feedback data from last year (n≈301)

Losses to attendance (average 66%) / feedback attrition ($n \approx 180$)

Thematic framework analysis coded by 3 individuals independently and compared

Q2 - WHAT DID YOU LIKE OR DISLIKE ABOUT THE SESSIONS?

Q3 - WERE THERE THINGS YOU HAD NOT THOUGHT OF BEFORE THAT YOU NOW FEEL ARE USEFUL FOR YOU AS YOU CONTINUE YOUR TRAINING?

Q2 - WHAT DID YOU LIKE OR DISLIKE ABOUT THE SESSIONS?

Themes

- 1. Informing practise
- 2. Insight/awareness
- 3. Normalisation
- 4. Wellbeing, enjoyment

- 5. Impact on self and others
- 6. Connectivity, sharing feelings
- 7. Humanity
- 8. Safe space

Q2 - WHAT DID YOU LIKE OR DISLIKE ABOUT THE SESSIONS?

Q3 - WERE THERE THINGS YOU HAD NOT THOUGHT OF BEFORE THAT YOU NOW FEEL ARE USEFUL FOR YOU AS YOU CONTINUE YOUR TRAINING?

I feel I can now survive becoming a doctor because before I thought I needed to suppress all emotions which I knew I couldn't do as I am too melodramatic and effected by my emotions

In a good way — I now feel that it is human and normal to have emotions and ready to cope with things as I continue my training. It is important to enjoy life as well as work.

It made me realise that being a good doctor is not about just dampening your emotions. I thought it was quite natural for me to be "feeling less" as I went on thought the years of medical school but this session has made me realise it shouldn't be natural to feel less emotion and I should start concentrating on my feelings

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Q2 - WHAT DID YOU LIKE OR DISLIKE ABOUT THE SESSIONS?

I like that it was a safe space to talk through our feelings

I Liked that people shared their difficult experiences as they made me feel like I am not the only person facing difficulties

Too large groups, the session would be more effective in smaller groups

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Themes	Sub-theme	Count	% (148 responses)
Positivity	Positivity Acts of Kindness 3 positive things Wellbeing & Appreciation Joy	75	51%
Communication	Communication Important to talk Reflection Avoid assumptions	31	21%
Emotional Awareness	El Skills Human / more than job Recognise / consider Emotions Compassion (for colleagues) Common Emotions Resilience	71	48%

Q2 - WHAT DID YOU LIKE OR DISLIKE ABOUT THE SESSIONS?

Q3 - WERE THERE THINGS YOU HAD NOT THOUGHT OF BEFORE THAT YOU NOW FEEL ARE USEFUL FOR YOU AS YOU CONTINUE YOUR TRAINING?

Theme	Sub-theme	Count	% (167 responses)
Positivity	3 positive things Positivity Promote self wellbeing Kindness Joy	132	79%
Communication	Listening / communication Reflective practice Talking to others	62	37%
Emotional Awareness	Common frustrations El Skills Recognise emotion Be human / individual / me Compassion (for Colleagues) Resilience	127	76 %

CONCLUSIONS

Possible to embed training on emotional awareness and self-efficacy

Interventions with high face validity

Challenges – groups / self

Outside of the context of competence, professionalism or resilience





