

Booth, Lisa ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7957-6501> , Kada, Sundaran, Satinovic, Milka, Phillips, Peter ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7473-6040> and Miller, Paul K. ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5611-1354> (2017) Student radiographer attitudes towards the older patient: a longitudinal study. In: UK Radiological Congress, 12-14 June 2017, Manchester Central Convention Centre, Manchester, UK. (Unpublished)

Downloaded from: <http://insight.cumbria.ac.uk/id/eprint/2932/>

Usage of any items from the University of Cumbria's institutional repository 'Insight' must conform to the following fair usage guidelines.

Any item and its associated metadata held in the University of Cumbria's institutional repository Insight (unless stated otherwise on the metadata record) may be copied, displayed or performed, and stored in line with the JISC fair dealing guidelines (available [here](#)) for educational and not-for-profit activities

provided that

- the authors, title and full bibliographic details of the item are cited clearly when any part of the work is referred to verbally or in the written form
 - a hyperlink/URL to the original Insight record of that item is included in any citations of the work
- the content is not changed in any way
- all files required for usage of the item are kept together with the main item file.

You may not

- sell any part of an item
- refer to any part of an item without citation
- amend any item or contextualise it in a way that will impugn the creator's reputation
- remove or alter the copyright statement on an item.

The full policy can be found [here](#).

Alternatively contact the University of Cumbria Repository Editor by emailing insight@cumbria.ac.uk.

Student Radiographer Attitudes towards the Older Patient: A Longitudinal Study

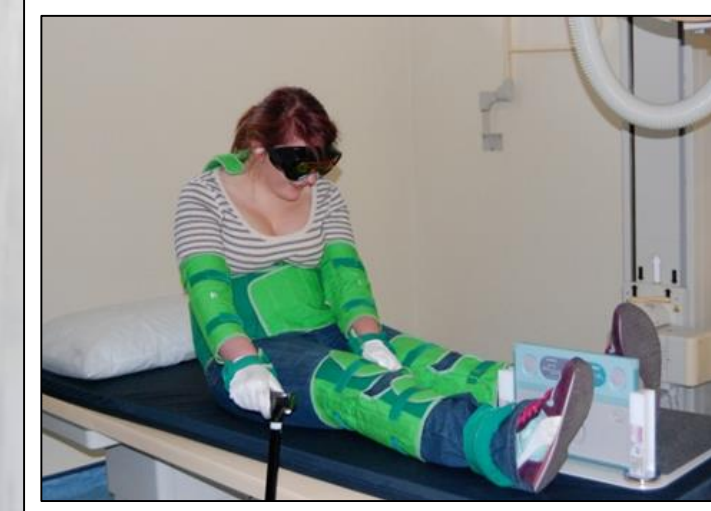
Lisa Booth, Sundaran Kada, Milka Satinovic, Peter Phillips and Paul K. Miller

Background

Increasing life expectancy in the western world has resulted in many healthcare services progressively handling larger proportions of older adults. It is now the case that the majority of patients examined in UK medical imaging departments are aged 65 years and over.^[1] Despite this upward trend a strong body of evidence suggests that negative staff/trainee attitudes towards older people remain prevalent in a number of healthcare domains, including radiography itself.^[2] The consequences of this situation for patient care is logically a matter of some concern.^[3] Education is widely viewed as a key component in preventing or reversing the development of negative attitudes towards older people, especially among student healthcare practitioners.^[4] Given this, a two-day programme was designed to 'set' student radiographer attitudes as positively as possible at an early stage in their training, such that they might be resilient to the factors that might result in a deterioration in attitudes

Intervention

A two day workshop was designed. Lectures were organised to dispel the common myths around ageing as well as how ageism is perpetuated both in the media and in health care. Sessions around the normal processes of ageing and compression morbidity were used for education and debate.^[5] Day 2 made use of workshops and role play^[6]. Here students dressed in simulation suits that mimicked some of the pathophysiological processes associated with ageing e.g. muscle fatigue, movement restriction macular degeneration and hearing loss.



Method

The quantitative outcomes of the educational intervention were assessed longitudinally, using Kogan's attitude towards old people scale (KOP),^[7] measurements were taken pre-intervention, and then in the short, medium and longer terms across the course of the participants' training. N=26

Findings



Discussion

Despite the limitations of using the KOP to measure health practitioner attitudes towards older patients and the small sample size, these data, coupled with the discussions from the focus groups (not presented here) suggests that the educational intervention influenced student attitudes towards older patients in a positive way. However clinical experiences can be detrimental if the intervention does not give students some confidence in dealing with some of the communication challenges often associated with Dementia care. The intervention did provide confidence during radiological procedures when negotiating the physiological and sensory deficits associated with ageing, as evidenced by some of the responses given in the focus groups.

Refs

1. Society and College of Radiographers. Caring for people with dementia: A clinical practice guideline for the radiography workforce (imaging and radiotherapy). London: Society and College of Radiographers; 2015
2. Kearney N, Miller M, Paul J, Smith K. Oncology healthcare professionals' attitudes toward elderly people. *Ann Oncol* 2000;11:599-601.
3. Courtney M, Tong S, Walsh A. Acute-care nurses' attitudes towards older patients: A literature review. *Int.J.Nurs.Pract.* 2000;6:62.

4. Cottle NR, Glover RJ. Combating ageism: Change in student knowledge and attitudes regarding aging. *Edu Geront* 2007;33:501-12
5. Palmore EB. Ageism: Negative and positive. 2nd ed. New York: Springer; 1999.
6. Aday RH, Campbell MJ. Changes in nursing students' attitudes and work preferences after a gerontology curriculum. *Edu Geront* 1995;21:247-60
7. Kogan N. Attitudes toward old people: The development of a scale and an examination of correlates. *J Abnorm Soc Psychology* 1961;62:44-54.