



Royal College of Physicians

Clair Merriman Biography

Following qualification as an RGN at the Royal Berkshire School of Nursing and Midwifery in 1992 Clair moved to Oxford as a staff nurse to become part of its regional Neuroscience Unit at the Radcliffe Infirmary. During this time Clair worked as a Clinical Development Nurse and Ward Sister within the unit. Clair continues to practice within the unit on a regular basis to ensure academic delivery is current and relevant. Clair is currently a part time doctoral student at QMUL, currently completing writing her thesis.

In February 2002 Clair made the move to full time education as a Lecturer in Clinical Skills at Oxford Brookes, and currently holds the post of Principle Lecturer, Professional Practice Skills. Since joining the university, Clair has undertaken responsibility for professional practice skills development. This involves developing, implementing, and evaluating the Teaching, Learning and Assessment strategy for professional practice skills at the same time ensuring collaboration with students, service users and staff about teaching and learning these skills. Clair manages 13 skills suites across two sites which supports professional practice skills development and low to medium fidelity simulation. Clair is an active member of course teams within the Pre-registration and Critical and Advanced Practice programmes. Teaching areas includes: Professional Practice skills for Health and social care students, Critical and Specialist Care, and Advanced Practice.

Clair has recently been awarded one of only 20 Oxford Clinical Academic Fellow posts in the newly formed Oxford School of Nursing and Midwifery.

Presentation Summary

Topic: What are the components of a 'good' ward round in a large adult critical care unit and how can we make them happen more often?

The ward round (WR) and its place in the promotion of quality care is of particular concern in critical care, where the increasing complexity of work demands excellent communication within the multidisciplinary team and effective ways of organising interrelated interventions of critical ill patients. However, given the high workloads and emotionally and technically demanding nature of work in critical care, the traditional WR may be viewed as too time consuming and not fit for current needs. This study aimed to support WR practice development in a large regional adult critical care unit (ACCU).

The study adopted a service improvement-focused, collaborative mixed methods design underpinned by Appreciative Inquiry to support the research design and data collection. Data collection methods included: Ethnographic Observations, Quantitative Data, Team Psychological Safety Survey, Key Informant Interviews and Natural occurring opportunities. Data Analysis was underpinned by Activity Theory. This presentation will share with the audience findings of the study.