

Using eportfolios in students' preparation for professional practice: lessons from the ePrepp project.

The ePrepp project is a multi-discipline initiative in the medical and health sciences and has several objectives. At the heart of the project is the objective of inter-professional education, and engaging students in inter-professional learning. This is achieved by providing appropriate opportunities for critical reflection and formative assessment and feedback (self, peer & tutor). The eportfolio is being piloted in multiple institutions as a tool to facilitate this, as well as fulfilling professional requirements for mapping and assessing common core competencies. The eportfolio should not just act as a substitution for paper-based assessment and feedback, but should enable enhanced and even transformed ways of knowing and behaving, evidenced in student performance.

We have implemented the Pebblepad eportfolio tool in several institutions and carried out student and tutor evaluations. The presentation will include discussion of 'What lessons have we learned in terms of choosing a suitable platform, an appropriate implementation plan, staff and student buy-in, and resources and technical help needed?'. It will also ask 'What affordances has the eportfolio technology provided for enhanced student learning?' The lessons learned are not specific to the medicine and health sciences, but speak to all disciplines.

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