

Supplementary file 2

Research Aim	Experiences of telehealth e-mentoring within postgraduate MSK physical therapy education: protocol for a mixed methods study		
Interview Section	Questions/Content	Prompts	Aims
Ethics Statement	<p>Firstly, I would like to thank you for participating in this interview. Just a reminder that it will be audio/video-recorded but all information shared will be kept strictly confidential. You are entitled to stop the interview and the recording at any point or terminate the interview altogether if you wish.</p> <p>You also have the right not to answer a question if you do not wish to. There are no right or wrong answers. I am interested in your own personal experiences, thoughts and perceptions, with the aim of today being to understand your experiences of telehealth e-mentoring, which covers all forms of consultation with patients using remote means, within postgraduate MSK physical therapy education.</p> <p>Before we start do you have any further questions?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Can I confirm that you have read and understand the information sheet and signed the consent form?</i> • <i>Are you comfortable?</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure full understanding of what is expected of the participant during this interview. • Make sure the participant is comfortable and ready to begin.
Introductory Questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can you tell me a bit about yourself? 2. Can you tell me about your clinical background and recent posts/roles? 3. Can you tell me about your experiences of professional development and approaches to learning/development? 4. How many weeks into your CMP module are You? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Age, where do you come from, clinical posts, setting (NHS/private/sport/military)</i> • <i>What professional development have you been involved in before- weekend courses, IST</i> • <i>Thinking back what approaches worked best and you remember the most?</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make participant relax and feel comfortable with talking and opening up. • Build rapport. • To gain an insight into the participant's background

Transition Questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is your overall experience of being a postgraduate MSK physical therapy student? 2. How do you study through the week? Can you run me through the different approaches you use? 3. When this telehealth e-mentoring was first proposed as alternative approach to conventional clinical mentorship, how did it make you feel? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What does being a masters level student mean to you?</i> • <i>What aspects of your studies do you enjoy?</i> • <i>Any challenges with studying at masters level?</i> • <i>How do you break up your studies to keep focused?</i> • <i>Are there approaches used in the University that work best or engage you more? Seminars, workshops, lectures, patient presentations etc</i> • <i>Do you meet with other students? How does that work and what e-platforms do you use? Does this involve just those in your cohort or other individuals?</i> • <i>What works well and what does not work so well?</i> • <i>Thoughts, beliefs and expectations around different approach to development? Anxieties and thoughts about relevance?</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start to guide the interview towards experiences of masters level professional development • To get an idea of their approach to studying at masters level • To explore approaches used and their preferences to learning • Explore beliefs and perceptions of something unplanned.
E-mentoring and telehealth background	<p>As well as a considerable body of evidence supporting the use of telehealth as cost effective, accessible means of providing patient care there is an emergence body of evidence supporting the use of e-mentoring to facilitate professional development. With the widespread use of telehealth to offer MSK physical therapy during the Covid-19 pandemic, this offered you as a student an opportunity to integrate knowledge and skills gained from the programme thus far in an authentic way and towards achievement of your programme learning outcomes.</p> <p>Where we are focusing on telehealth e-mentoring to develop advanced clinical reasoning skills to optimise care of patients with MSK symptoms, we will consider outcomes of masters level</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Do you have any questions?</i> • <i>If you are unsure at any point regarding aspects of the Logic Model, please ask.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform the participant of the background of the study • Ensure the participant knows they can ask questions if they are unsure.

	<p>education in MSK physical therapy, which includes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Critical thinking skills and analysis</i> 2. <i>Clinical reasoning</i> 3. <i>Confidence and motivation to practice</i> 4. <i>Enhanced career progression</i> 5. <i>Becoming a lifelong learner</i> 6. <i>Advanced communication skills</i> 7. <i>Enhanced sense of autonomy</i> <p>I have a number of questions for you founded on this model and if you are not clear on anything as we go through, then please let me know.</p>		
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To start with, could you perhaps give me an idea of how the telehealth e-mentoring has influenced your critical thinking skills? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>In what way do you think you have become more critical or analytical?</i> • <i>Has your clinical decision making changed?</i> • <i>In what way has your evidenced based practice changed?</i> • <i>What aspects of the process facilitated that?</i> • <i>What role did the others have in your group to enable that?</i> • <i>What role did the mentor have in facilitating this?</i> • <i>Have there been any additional learning activities you have been set during the CMP module which you have found beneficial?</i> • <i>How have different patient presentations influenced your critical analysis and decision making skills</i> • <i>Is there any different challenges between NP/FU</i> • <i>Assessment/management/rehab</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To explore the influences of the experience on critical thinking and development of analytical skills across a range of patient presentations

Main Questions	<p>2. Could you perhaps give me an idea of how the telehealth e-mentoring has influenced your ability to clinical reasoning?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Has this influenced your approach to reasoning e.g. collaborative or narrative reasoning of cases?</i> • <i>How did the different patients you saw influence this?</i> • <i>Knowledge is a component of clinical reasoning – was this challenged in anyway?</i> • <i>How did time influence this – reflection on and in action</i> • <i>Where you were involved in peer mentoring, how did this influence your own development?</i> • <i>Has this experience changed your meta cognition? If so, how?</i> • <i>What strategies did you use to support development of your clinical reasoning? Planning sheets, PROMs etc</i> • <i>Are your experiences the same for NP and FP</i> • <i>Did you feel this differed accordingly to stages of management e.g. assessment, management and rehab? What about doing physical tests? What about approaches to management?</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To explore the influences of the experience on their ability to clinically reason and justify patient management across a range of patient presentations
	<p>3. How do you feel the telehealth e-mentoring has influenced your confidence and motivation to practice in MSK physical therapy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Do you feel more of less confidence in managing patients within a biopsychosocial model of practice?</i> • <i>Why do you feel that? Is there any specific aspect of the mentorship that has helped or hindered that?</i> • <i>Does this reflect all stages of patient care – assessment, management and rehab</i> • <i>What aspects of your practice do you have more or less confidence in – e.g. reasoning complex cases, certain presentations, etc.</i> • <i>How do you feel about now going back into practice?</i> • <i>How do feel about dealing with uncertainty in managing complex patient cases in the future?</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To explore confidence and motivation to practice in MSK physical therapy, drawing on new skills and knowledge • To explore how comfortable they are with dealing with uncertainty and problem solving to inform clinical decision making?

	<p>4. Advanced communication skills are central to patient history taking and I wonder how you feel these have been influenced by the telehealth e mentoring?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Do you think your communication skills have changed? If so in what way? Which skills – listening, oral, written?</i> • <i>Do you feel there are any barriers or facilitators that have aided the development of your communication skills</i> • <i>How do you think this has influenced your relationship with your patients and peers?</i> • <i>Have your communications skills changed as a result of working in a small group? If so in what way?</i> • <i>What influence has this medium had on building a rapport with your patients?</i> • <i>What communication strategies have you used to develop your therapeutic relationship with patients?</i> • <i>Do you feel these experience have influenced your ability to interpret patient data, and articulate clinical diagnosis and treatment decisions</i> • <i>How have you optimised patient engagement in management plans?</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To explore the scope of communication and the influences of this at a personnel, group and professional level
	<p>5. How do you feel the telehealth e-mentoring may have influenced</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Career progression b. Becoming a lifelong learner c. Enhanced sense of autonomy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>How do you feel now you have completed the clinical mentorship?</i> • <i>Do you feel this experience will be useful in supporting career progression e.g. triage?</i> • <i>Where students have reported changes such as career enhancement, becoming a lifelong learner or increased sense of autonomy, do you feel the experiences you have had will be useful? If so in what way?</i> • <i>In light of Covid-19 and social distancing how do you feel about the next stage of your career? What are your priorities and plans following completion of the programme?</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To explore views and perceptions of this authentic experience on career progression, being a lifelong learning and sense of autonomy
Conclusion	<p>That's all the questions, is there anything else you would like to add about your experiences of telehealth e-mentoring?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Is there anything you would like to ask regarding the analysis of the data or the next steps of the process?</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the participant is comfortable with what has been discussed.

	The interview has now finished. Thank you for participating in this study, I really appreciate your time and input.		
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