

Enabling and facilitating online learning through peer communication and collaboration

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Introduction

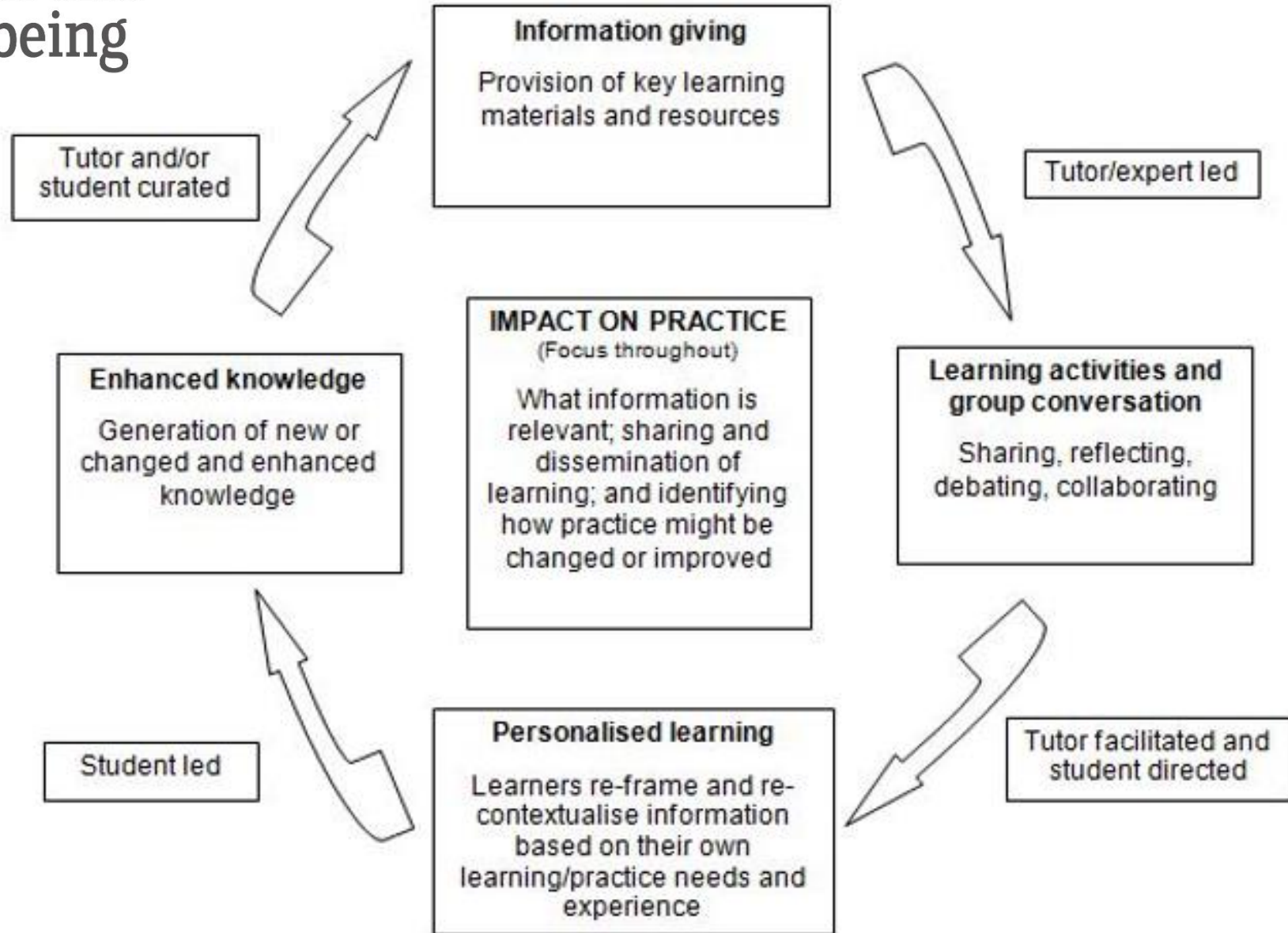
- Our team in Radiotherapy, Oncology & Supportive Care started online distance learning in 2005, fully online distance learning since 2010
- 5 MSc awards and approximately 15 modules
- Also, delivered three MOOC's (prostate cancer, end of life care and image guidance in radiotherapy)

Learning over the years

- Regular contact with tutors is important
- Students enjoy having the opportunity for peer interaction
- Students learn from one another's experiences, as well as from the learning materials and tutor direction provided
- Students gain support from one another as well as their tutor
- Online tools should be used appropriately and not for the sake of it
- Both asynchronous and synchronous forms of collaboration are useful
- An online 'narrative' of the learning materials, and the learning that takes place, is important
- Enable them to contextualise their learning
- Enable them to learn from 'connecting' with others

Pedagogy

- Our module delivery is based upon Salmon's (2004) 5 stage model for online learning:
 - Access and motivation
 - Online socialisation
 - Information exchange
 - Knowledge construction
 - Development




E-tivities (formative assessment)

- A key part of our learning, teaching and assessment strategy
- Many will involve / require peer discussion
- Consolidate learning
- Contextualise learning
- Enable peer connections and peer learning
- Feed forward into final summative assessment

Online discussion & collaboration (asynchronous)

- Blackboard 'discussion boards'
- Padlets
- Google drive

An example




[Redacted]

8 months ago

RE: Reflection on learning on the diagnosis of prostate cancer

Thank you [Redacted] for giving a clear picture of what men with suspected prostate cancer go through, I think that a one stop clinic is very helpful for men, so they would know if they have prostate cancer as soon as possible with less commuting and disruption of daily activities due to hospital appointments. I think mpMRI is cost effective because it will accurately detect clinically significant prostate cancer, and the patient doesn't have to come back for another biopsy. Saves both NHS and patient's time and dealing with side effects of biopsy.

▲ Hide 1 reply




[Redacted]

8 months ago

RE: Reflection on learning on the diagnosis of prostate cancer

Thank you [Redacted] the one stop clinic works to a certain extent and does cut a lot of visits , however a lot of the men arrive in clinic having not read the literature sent to them and thinking that they are here for investigation for irritative urinary symptoms and then get a shock when we mention prostate cancer, there is no 'time' for them to get used to the possibility, which can often be a drawback.

[Redacted]



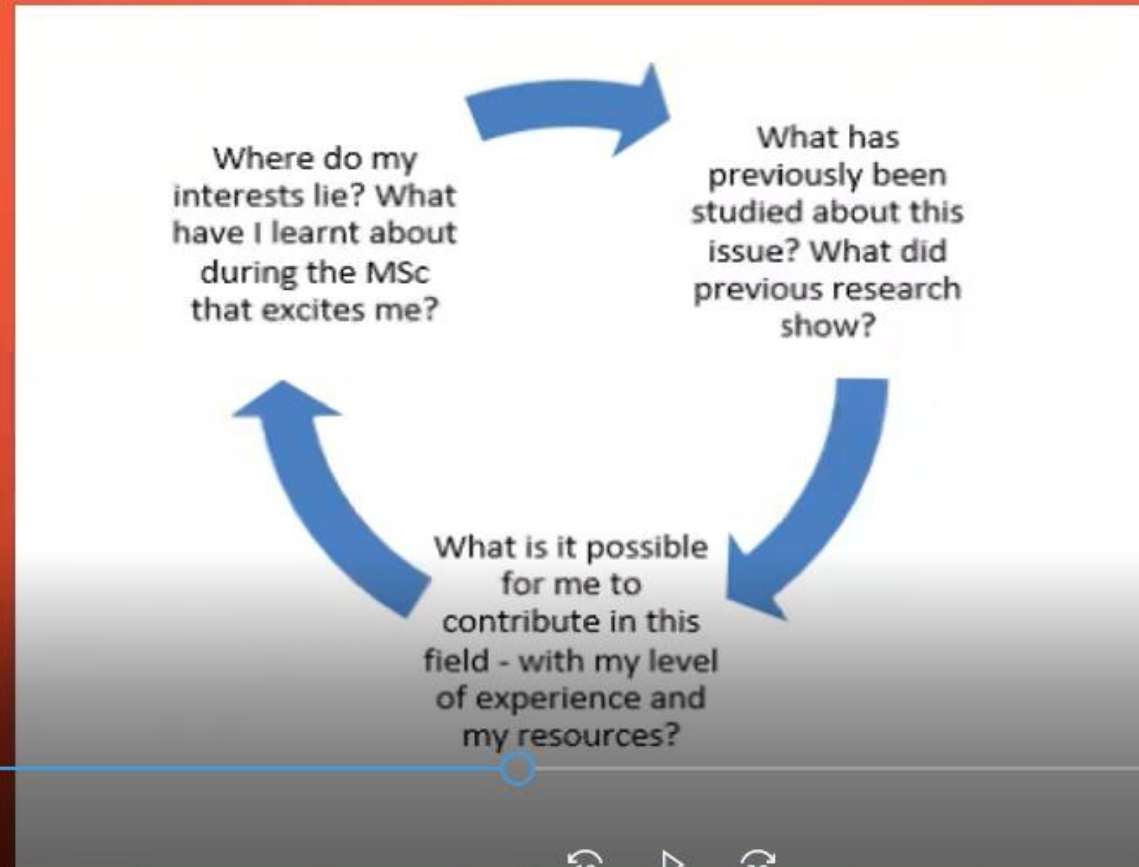
Other uses / benefits of online communication

- Live, face to face teaching and learning between tutors and peers
 - E.g. webinars
- Learning from experts / peers in their field external to the module
 - E.g. webinar
 - E.g. expert of the week asynchronous discussion and Q&A forum
- Provision of support (from peers and tutors)
 - E.g. a 'general queries' discussion board
 - E.g. assessment support (asynchronous or live webchat)
 - E.g. announcements – 'keeping in touch'
- Narration of key learning points / key messages
 - E.g. weaved summaries
- Assessment
 - E.g. vivas, skills assessment

Online teaching and discussion (synchronous)

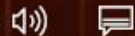
- Zoom webinars
- Zoom group discussion and collaboration
- Blackboard Collaborate webinars
- Google hangouts
- Skype

WHAT MIGHT YOU WANT TO CONSIDER..



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00:13:05



Any questions?

End of presentation. Thank you for your time.

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