ID: 12981

Title: Which Hat am I Wearing? Exploring Role Conflict Related Issues that may Occur for Health Practitioners who are also Health Professional Educators when Working with Students

Dr Kwong Chan, Dr Laurance Robillard, A/Prof Gary Rogers

Background
Our experience of working as health professional educators with university students who have academic concerns as well as underlying medical and mental health issues may present those of us who are also registered practitioners with possible role conflict related issues such as possible dual or multiple relationships and or potential boundary issues. For example, working as a registered psychologist and student communication skills coach can become complex when the student’s underlying mental health issues may be negatively impacting on their communication skills.

Similarly as a health practitioner who works as a PBL facilitator how should you respond to a student who presents with extreme emotional distress that requires medical attention.

Objective
To explore the main role conflict related issues experienced by different health professional educators who are also registered practicing health practitioners. To build consensus on how to address the issues identified.

Discussion Questions
1. What potential role conflict issues do health professional educators face when interacting with students?
2. How should the educator manage these issues when they arise?
3. What role should the education provider play in addressing the issues?