

From Lucy Jenkins and Kimberly Bruce

Focus group to discuss adjustments and supports for autistic medical students and students with ADHD on GP placements

Online on Thursday 14th November at 8pm

We are striving to increase inclusivity in primary care teaching, and we are aware that some students may struggle on placements due to autism/ADHD. We are keen to recognise the positive traits of autism/ADHD and how these impact on how students learn and develop and their strengths as doctors.

We are pleased to now be able to share their SSP (Student Support Plan) information with you, but we are aware that in some instances they can be of limited value for clinical placements. We want to equip our teachers with tools to best teach these students, but there is limited specific guidance for this, especially for students in primary care. We are therefore carrying out research with the aim of developing a practical guide for reasonable adjustment for autistic medical students and/or medical students with ADHD on GP placements.

So far students have completed questionnaires, and we have carried out 1-1 interviews with students: lots of useful information to feed into the next stage which is discussing these with our GP teachers in focus groups. Please read on if you are interested and able to help, and email us on the address given if you would like to be involved or have any questions

Invitation to participate in a research study: Reasonable adjustments for autistic medical students and/or medical students with ADHD on GP Placements at the University of Bristol

We need your help

We are looking to recruit who are:

1. Current GP Tutors for the University of Bristol Medical School

AND

2. A fully qualified GP

The study aims to better understand the learning needs and strengths of autistic medical students and/or medical students with ADHD on GP Placements. We would like to collaborate with you to identify reasonable adjustments and develop a practical guide to help aid discussion around this. This will help us to better support students, and develop evidence-based teaching and adjustments

What does it involve?

A short, informal GP tutor focus group with 4-7 GPs, **online on Thursday 14th November at 8pm**, lasting around 60 minutes on Microsoft Teams

As a token of our appreciation for giving us time in your busy schedule everyone attending will receive a £50 **Love2Shop voucher**

We want to hear your views, and you get to be involved in curriculum innovation.

Participation is voluntary, and all feedback will be anonymised

We welcome both neurotypical and neurodivergent GPs to participate, you are not expected to declare any information about this, and we will not ask you any personal questions about this. You also do not necessarily need to have any experience of teaching autistic and/or ADHD medical students. We are keen for this work to be neuroaffirmative and have involved people with lived experience in designing and running this research. Part of the project is to highlight

areas that autistic medical students and students with ADHD excel at compared to their neurotypical peers.

Adaptions

During the focus group, you will have the option of having your camera on and off, enable/disable captions and can 'put your virtual hand up' to talk. Questions will be provided in advance on request. You are welcome to listen to music while talking, read from notes. Eye contact is not expected, and you are free to have pets, calming objects or stim toys. Please let us know about any other adaptations that would be useful for you.

I would like to take part and/or I have further questions:

- If you would like to take part please email lucy.jenkins@bristol.ac.uk with 'I would like to participate in the focus group' and include which year group you mostly teach
- If you would like more information, please email lucy.jenkins@bristol.ac.uk with 'I would like more information about the focus group before I decide whether to take part' with your questions

Thank you. We will contact you regarding this in the last week of October. If there is a lot of interest we may not have a capacity for everyone to participate and we may have to select based on year groups taught so we can ensure representation of all years.

Lead Researchers:

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