

Deal with vulnerability in primary care: an educational experience in Vocational Training

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PURPOSE:

To describe an example of the training – using the Simulated Patient (SP) methodology – for trainees of vocational training (VT) in General Practice (GP) to learn the management of clinical-social-relational complexity, when the patient is vulnerable (poor, seriously ill, alcoholic, with mild cognitive impairment and with social problems).

CONTEXT:

We are teacher in VT for GP in Trento (Italy). We use interactive methodologies, mostly the SP.

The SP offers us some advantages, for instance:

- learn an holistic approach –typical of the primary care - to the patient
- learn the management of vulnerable patients
- apply and discuss the guideline not in theory, but in a real person, who can be disagree about some prescriptions
- have the voice of the patient in classroom
- recreate the patient-doctor encounter in high fidelity way
- put in the scene a (complex) real case happened to one trainee, to have some advice from the group of colleagues

STATE OF THE ART:

The training of doctors in Italy takes place through the use of traditional teaching methods. To learn how to manage a complex and fragile patient as Guglielmo we use the SP method that can reproduce the real patient-doctor encounter and allows students to practice in a safe and secure environment without risks for the patient.

MODE OF PRESENTATION:

The simulated consultation and presentation was videotaped with English subtitles (25 min.)