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OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

Spotlight on Social Prescribing

IFIC Scotland Webinar

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4:00 - 5:30pm

Edinburgh

Opinion: the longevity of social prescribing around the world is contingent on student involvement

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Hamaad Khan is Graduate Medical Student, currently working as Global Development Officer for the National Academy for Social Prescribing. He studied neuroscience at King's College London for his Undergraduate Degree and then went on to complete his M.Sc. in Global Health and Development at University College London just before starting medical school.

Una Roven is Harvard undergraduate who was Intern with the National Academy of Social Prescribing in 2024.

Cody Chou is Harvard Undergraduate who was Intern with the National Academy of Social Prescribing in 2024.

Caitlin Muhl (B.Sc., MPH) is Ph.D. Candidate in Health Quality at Queen's University in Canada. From 2022 to 2024, she was one of Co-Founders and Co-Leads of the Canadian Social Prescribing Student Collective.

Rachel Chen is Medical Student at Harvard Medical School, USA. In 2023, she Co-Founded the US Social Prescribing Student Collective.

Alexandra Tan is Final-Year Medical Student at Imperial College London and Communications Lead for the Student Champion Scheme at the National Academy for Social Prescribing (NASP).

Naabil Khan is Award-Winning Medical Student serving as Current Student Champion Global Lead for the Social Prescribing Student Champion Scheme. She is also Creator of the podcast "Very Junior Doctors" and Founder of the website "Skin For All".

Kirstie Ann Goodchild (B.A., M.Sc.) is an Occupational Therapist serving as Current Evidence Lead for the Social Prescribing Student Champion Scheme. She was Allied Health Professions Coordinator for the 2022–2023 Social Prescribing Student Champion Scheme.

Design/methodology/approach

To argue this viewpoint, the authors share examples of how student collaborations have previously been utilised successfully to promote social prescribing.

Findings

It is concluded that future social prescribing success could therefore rely on continued student involvement.

Research limitations/implications

This work is a viewpoint article, meaning it is subjective in nature and influenced by the authors' lived previous experiences of the benefits they noticed to their learning by themselves being involved with social prescribing schemes as students.

Originality/value

This original viewpoint article offers a valuable perspective regarding what education may be necessary in relation to social prescribing. This is because it shares the viewpoints of authors who all have different lived experiences of social prescribing education by holding various roles within worldwide social prescribing peer-learning schemes.

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NASP Student Champion Scheme

National Academy for Social Prescribing

Programme Highlights: 7 Years On

782 student champions recruited to date

20,000+ healthcare trainees and students engaged

1,500+ teaching sessions delivered across UK universities

50+ Conferences and published multiple peer-reviewed publications presented by Champions

3x National Conferences with over 500 attendees

83 Universities involved

Launched world's first **#SocialPrescribingDay** awareness campaign (2018)

Social prescribing is now being taught at **all UK-based medical schools**

Global Student Initiatives

Beyond its national success, the social prescribing student champion scheme has paved the way forward and inspired the development of several international student groups across the world. Examples include the Australian Social Prescribing Student Collective launched by the Australian Medical School Association, the Canadian Social Prescribing Student Collective, the Portuguese Social Prescribing Student Collective, and the USA National Student Chapter on Social Prescribing to name a few. In collaboration with the UK student champion scheme, student leaders across the world have developed a global social prescribing student collective in order to share best practice, influence and support medical education changes on a global scale. The student group has created a step-by-step framework for setting up an international social prescribing student champion scheme.

The National Academy for Social Prescribing continues its collaboration with the Harvard Global Health Institute at Harvard University. Each summer, three Harvard University students take part in a social prescribing internship in London and contribute to existing research and the development of further resources.

- https://socialprescribingacademy.org.uk/media/fk0dwbkd/nasp-student-champions-report-d4-spreads.pdf

An Evaluation of a Student Allied Health Professions' Social Prescribing Scheme

- **Method:** Fourteen AHP champions ran 21 activities that reached 524 students. Those participating in the champion-led activities were asked to complete pre- and post-session surveys to capture the impact of the sessions on their awareness of, knowledge of, and confidence with clinically applying social prescribing. Participants also rated the opportunity for multi-disciplinary interaction and overall experience of the champion led activities.
- **Results:** It was found that participant's post-session scores for awareness, understanding and confidence were higher than pre-session scores. Further, post-session survey results showed that participants enjoyed and felt they had been able to experience multi-disciplinary interaction at events.
- **Conclusions:** In summary, the evaluation of the AHP SPSCS highlights the value of student-led peer teaching in helping to raise awareness and understanding about social prescribing for AHP students, whilst acknowledging the need to expand the scheme's reach in the future.

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INTERNATIONAL EVIDENCE COLLABORATIVE NEWSLETTER

- The “Quick 6” includes publications which have recently captured our interest. Recent themes include “Social Prescribing and…:

❑General Mental Health and Wellbeing”

❑Employment-Related Learning and Skills”

❑Severe Mental Illness"

https://assets-gbr.mkt.dynamics.com/ea854435-813c-42c1-8816-8d79f2b3b53f/digitalassets/standaloneforms/7364e464-72f2-ee11-a1fd-000d3a7efeab

https://tinyurl.com/NASPNEWS

National Academy for Social Prescribing

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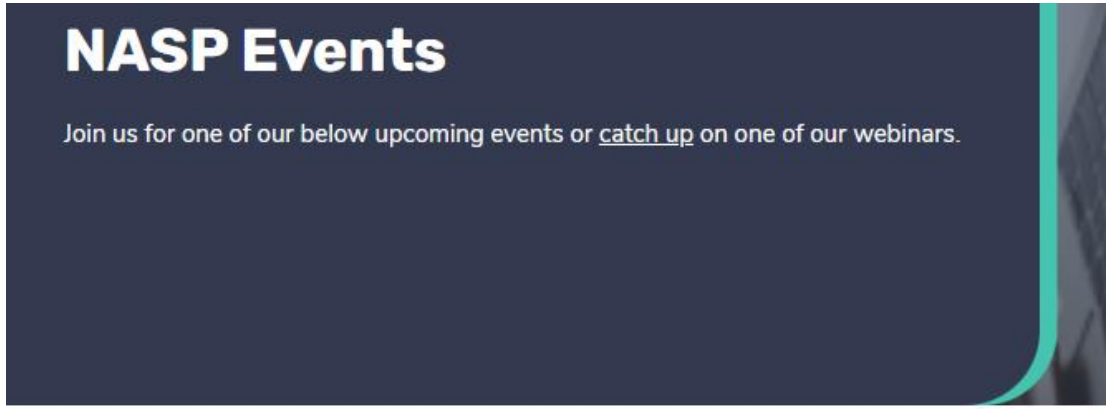
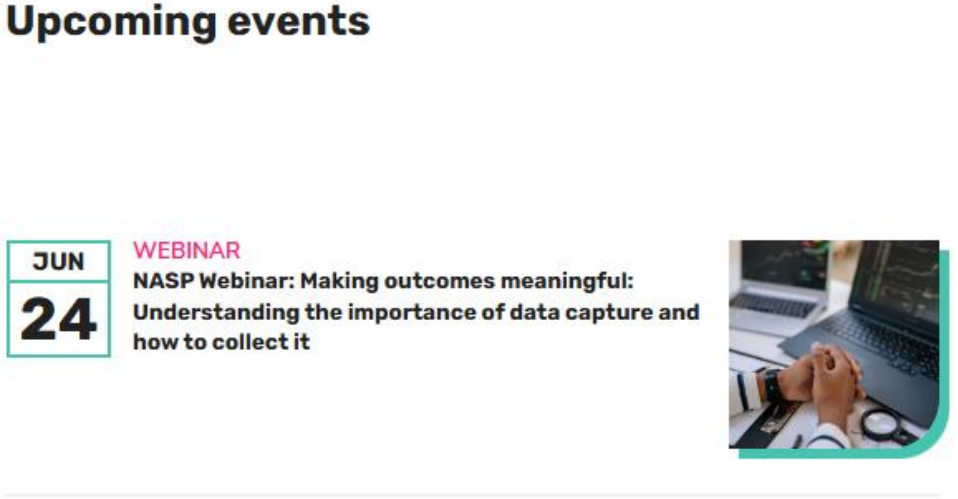
nasp_insta

National Academy for Social Prescribing

1,137 posts **3,737** followers **316** following

A national organisation dedicated to the advancement of #SocialPrescribing.
Find out more ⬇️

linktr.ee/socialprescribingacademy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