

Back to the future: The transplant of medical simulation heuristics in the discipline of law



Background

In February 2013, the Department of Professional Legal Education, Faculty of Law, HKU adopted the standardized client interviews (SCIs) initiated by the Glasgow Graduate School of Law to change the way lawyer-client communication skills are learnt and assessed. Standardized clients (SCs) originate from standardized patients in medical education. All the three law schools in Hong Kong now have their SCIs.

Our study and findings

From our analysis of assessment results and student evaluation against student profile from more than 2,700 SCIs involving over 1,800 students and about 40 SCs, we find:

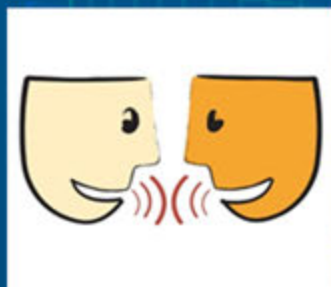
1. The methodology can be transplanted to another jurisdiction.
2. Assessment of students' communicative competence by SCIs is reliable and valid.
3. SCIs offer students a valuable learning experience.
4. SCIs enhance students' communication and interviewing skills.
5. Cultural particularities such as gender and first language may influence the performance and learning experience of students in SCIs.



Number of SCIs



Statistical analysis



What did people say
about SCIs ?