

An innovative approach to learning which delivered a contemporary maternal infant health module in an undergraduate nursing programme

**Maternal infant health:
Innovation in education**

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Background

- ▶ Schools of nursing are charged with ensuring that BN graduates are prepared to meet the Registered Nurse Scope of Practice across the life span.
- ▶ The development of direct entry Midwifery degree courses and a separate council for midwives reflects the growing specialisation of this area of practice.
- ▶ The knowledge and skills required by Registered nurses is so much more than the physiological processes occurring.
- ▶ Pressure on clinical placements.



CONTEXT: The School of Nursing University of Auckland

- ▶ Established 2000
- ▶ Co-located with medicine, pharmacy, nutrition and optometry
- ▶ Faculty situated across the road from Auckland City Hospital
- ▶ One intake a year - 100 students/year
- ▶ Infant and maternal health within third year course

What was...

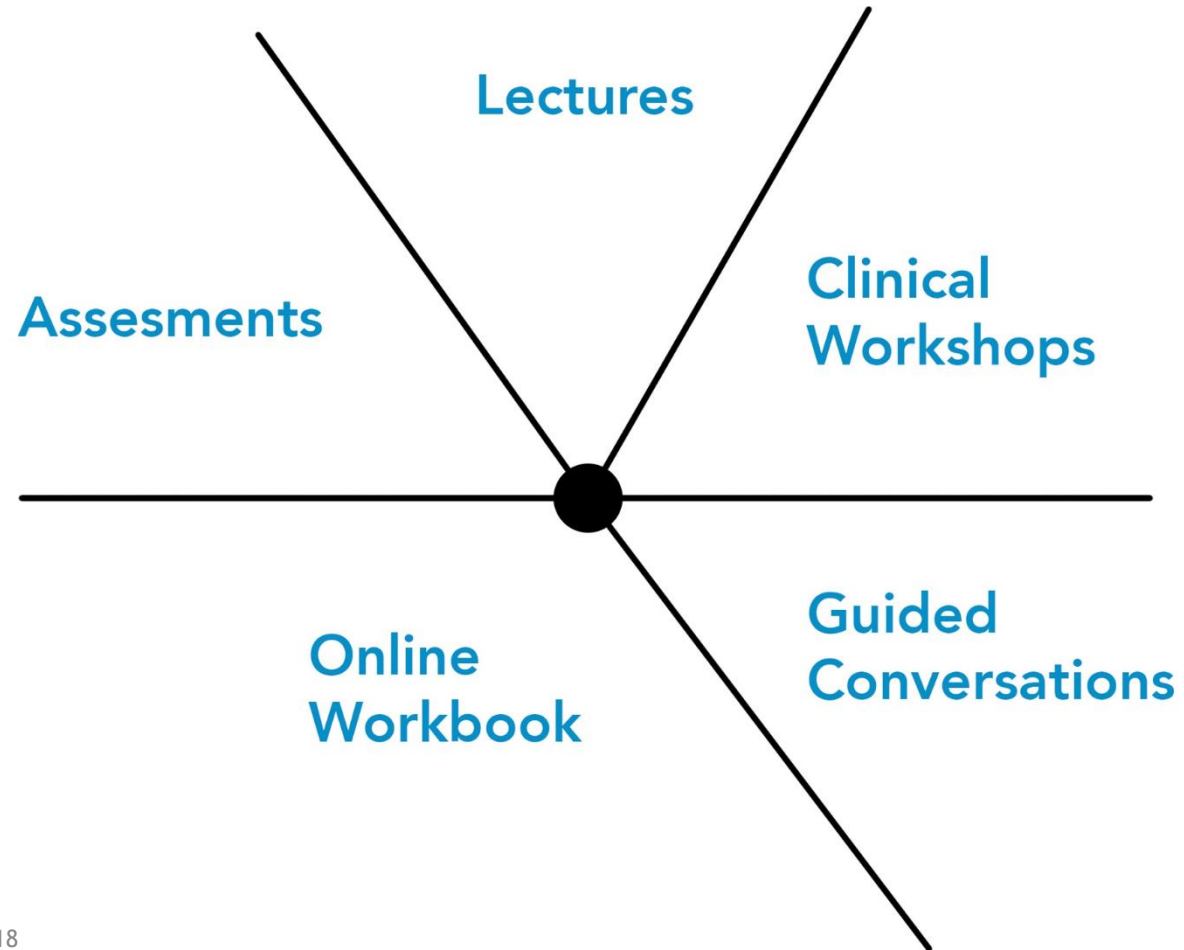
- ▶ A case study approach
- ▶ Follow through a woman's experience through the last few months of her pregnancy
- ▶ Needed to find a pregnant woman due about May
- ▶ Expectation of 2 antenatal and 2 postnatal visits
- ▶ Written case study often 5000+ words, due towards the end of semester so alongside other work
- ▶ NOT enjoyed by students - negative feedback
- ▶ Heavy teacher workload

Opportunity for Innovation

- ▶ Opportunity to re-conceptualise this module
- ▶ Woman and family focused
- ▶ Receptive to student learning needs
- ▶ A collaboration between lecturers and learning designers
- ▶ Incorporating e-learning/blended learning



Model overview



Online work book

- ▶ Workbook - sequenced theory and short answer questions & activities
- ▶ Sections:
 - 1 - Pre-knowledge quiz covering conception, A&P (year 1 content)
 - 2 - Ethics, Values and Advocacy (introduces guided conversation)
 - 3 - Antenatal care
 - 4 - Childbirth
 - 5 - Postnatal care



Quality considerations

- ▶ Content peer reviewed by a Midwife and senior Child Health Nurse
- ▶ Tested by external learning support expert
- ▶ Meet RN scope of practice for a new graduate
- ▶ 1st year - progressed slowly and carefully



Are they learning?

- ▶ Formative quizzes (after section 1,3,4,5)
 - ▶ Multiple attempts; 20 questions in 30 mins; on shuffle
- ▶ Short answer questions
- ▶ Linked to guided conversation, lectures and workshop
- ▶ Some model answers
- ▶ Refers students to textbook
- ▶ Summative MCQ at conclusion - 10% of course grade

Question 1

The thinning of the cervix during labour is called:

- a) Dilation
- b) Effacement
- c) Station
- d) Presentation

Question 2

A woman has difficulty voiding following delivery. You would explain that the reason for this is

- a. the bladder fills slowly following childbirth
- b. she is not trying hard enough
- c. she must have a cervical tear, reducing bladder sensation
- d. perineal oedema makes voiding difficult

Question 3

A newborn infant has loose, yellow stools. Although the infant is healthy, his mother is concerned that this means he is allergic to breast milk. You would explain to her that

- a. she might try burping the infant more frequently
- b. the stools of breast-fed infants are normally loose
- c. she might consider changing to a soybean formula
- d. her child may need to be investigated for bile duct disease

Results



- ▶ Student satisfaction - high; like self-paced, interactive nature; can do it anywhere, anytime; quick feedback
- ▶ 100% pass the Summative MCQ
- ▶ 100% pass in State
- ▶ Lecturer satisfaction - high



Lessons Learnt...

- ▶ Teacher feedback
 - Time to create upfront
 - Less marking
 - Need to keep updated
- ▶ Plan ahead
- ▶ Blended works
- ▶ Keep communication open
- ▶ Expect to do updates yearly

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Questions?

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