INTEGRATING NHS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TOOLS INTO A POSTGRADUATE FLIPPED CLASSROOM

Matthew D Jones¹ and Tiffany Barrett¹,²

¹University of Bath, ²South West Medicines Information and Training

Background
- Postgraduate clinical pharmacy practice distance learning students must study critical appraisal
- At entry they have variable knowledge of statistics, so were previously taught as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Self-directed study</th>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Self-directed study</th>
<th>Critical appraisal assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General reading on critical appraisal</td>
<td>75%: Statistics lecture</td>
<td>25%: Critical appraisal exercise</td>
<td>General reading on critical appraisal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- For some students this assumed too much prior knowledge, whilst others learnt little
- This project aimed to increase the amount of active engagement with critical appraisal activities, whilst ensuring all students had sufficient understanding of statistics

Method
- With limited contact hours available, a “flipped” approach was adopted:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Self-directed study of statistics</th>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Critical appraisal assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Using UK Medicines Information training materials, e.g. MiCAL</td>
<td>10%: Statistics Q&amp;A</td>
<td>90%: Tutor supported critical appraisal group work</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MiCAL is an RPS accredited e-learning package (CoAcS Software) which includes a critical appraisal exercise with worked statistical explanations. Updated annually.

Results
- Student satisfaction improved (last non-flipped cohort (n=26) vs. first flipped cohort (n=25)):

- Performance in the critical appraisal assessment was maintained (median mark 61% vs 64%)

Conclusions
- A flipped approach increased the range of topics covered and improved student satisfaction, whilst maintaining assessment performance
- This was made possible by the use of tools designed for NHS professional development
- Such integration between workplace and university education may be useful in other courses