



Keele University School of Medicine Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) Strategy

Mission:

Keele University Medical School aspires to be an example of best practice in its high quality and effective engagement of patients, carers and members of the public embracing them as critical friends throughout the operation and development of the selection and education of medical students (and doctors in training).

Values:

- That PPI will contribute to the School's mission to 'graduate excellent clinicians'.
- To engage openly with the community and be outward-facing to the local and wider community (from University Strategic Map 2010-2015).
- The importance of PPI is recognised from the top down and there is a School commitment to high quality PPI with the appropriate support and resources deployed to this end.
- There is recognition of the added value to be gained from PPI involvement and a pledge to a culture which considers the viewpoints and contribution of PPI Partners to be of equal value to academic and professional perspectives.
- Engagement should take place for a specific and clearly identified purpose which will vary according to circumstances and need. Thus for each instance of PPI the (potential) benefits should be identified, involvement be planned and School members be ready to act upon the input. This should be documented and be readily available to School members.
- An understanding that PPI roles within the Medical School may vary. Tailored person specifications and role descriptors should be used to ensure that PPI partners are suitable for the role they are carrying out.
- To have a diverse and inclusive PPI body where a representative cross-section of the local community is represented. Encouragement for PPI partners from as broad and diverse backgrounds as possible to become involved and a commitment to equality in PPI recruitment and selection.
- A rigorous program of evaluation should be in place to allow revisions and improvements and to allow stakeholders an opportunity to express their experiences of PPI, views, and suggestions.
- That PPI partners agree to undertake their role, know their responsibilities and have understood the PPI policies and any relevant School, Faculty or University policies (or summaries thereof).
- That everyone involved in PPI (including PPI Partners and University staff) should have access to appropriate information, training and guidance to allow them to strive towards the PPI mission statement.
- The School has a responsibility to support PPI partners appropriately, before, during and after involvement.
- An obligation that nobody is 'out of pocket' as a result of their invited involvement as a PPI partner. Financial and non-financial reward and recognition should be consistent and equitable whilst understanding and supporting PPI Partners' different needs and circumstances.

Scope:

This strategy is concerned with patients or members of the public involved with the Medical School. It excludes patients (i.e. simulated, expert, real) who are involved in teaching and assessment purely in their capacity as a patient with a specific medical condition.

Areas for PPI input: Student Selection; Teaching; Assessment; Curriculum Development; Quality Assurance and Governance.

Benefits:

- Graduating excellent clinicians matched to patients' needs and community requirements and expectations.
- Increased patient satisfaction in patients treated by Keele medical graduates and students.
- Greater ownership of medical education for the public who indirectly fund the training of doctors.
- Increased diversity of opinion and different perspectives brought to decisions.
- Reduced and removed blind spots.
- New insights, challenges and perspectives with potential to bring new ideas to the curriculum.
- Raised awareness and profile of the School.
- Personal and professional development of the PPI partner, empowerment, an increased personal satisfaction with health services and medical education and a feeling of 'doing good'.