

Setting up an education unit within a family planning service- Pros and Cons.

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In recent years family planning education for nurses has moved into the control of the universities with the emphasis on academia, often at the cost of using experienced practitioners.

Service providers need to be more closely involved with training if they are to develop the right type of staff for their services. Whilst academic ability is still important, hands on skills and the experience of the lecturer who is also a practitioner can produce staff with up to date knowledge and appropriate skills. Setting up an education department within a service has many advantages, not only does it produce an income but there are many beneficial spin-offs for the staff.

This poster will show the development of an education unit and the necessary framework for training both doctors and nurses in family planning. It will also show how academic accreditation is possible and describe the benefits to the department as a result of having its own training unit i.e. raising of standards and staff updating.