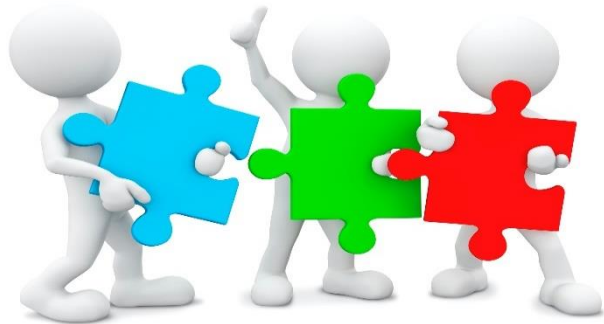


## 6<sup>th</sup> Form Shadowing Project

### Medicine and the multi-disciplinary team

This programme has been developed and led by Dr Paul Laboi, Consultant Physician in renal medicine, York Hospital and supported by colleagues across the NHS Trust. Everyone involved gives their time willingly to encourage students from state schools to enter medical school. It gives a clear understanding of the wide range of skills needed for a career in medicine and of the partnerships that exist in the multi-disciplinary team.



The programme is funded and supported by the Friends of York Hospitals, a Registered Charity, which raises funds to improve the experience of patients within York Hospitals.

2021 was the 5<sup>th</sup> year the programme was been delivered. It began with one student in 2017 developing and increasing to twelve in 2020.

#### What is it?

**An opportunity** for students interested in a career in medicine, to gain some understanding of the field of medicine and the working of the multi-disciplinary team.

**Discuss** with consultant medical staff and GPs, the role of the doctor in various specialties such as renal medicine, radiology, gastroenterology, surgery and general practice

**Learn** from members of the multi-disciplinary team, including pharmacists, dieticians, social workers and nursing specialists how they fit into the team caring for patients.

**Meet** patients and their carers to gain insight into the patient experience. This may include the complicated world of transplantations, dialysis and long-term care for chronic illnesses such as cystic fibrosis.

**Debate** the wider influences on healthcare such as ethics in and balancing financial budgets in the light of the competing demands.

**Participate** in a session about how research improves treatment for patients

**Understand** what medical schools are looking for, how to complete an application form and learn interview techniques.

## How?

In 2021 all the sessions were virtual because arrangements had to meet the requirements of the national and local guidelines for Covid-19. The Hull York Medical School (HYMS) supported the technical issues.

## When?

The programme runs on Wednesday afternoons for 9 weeks during January to March (exc. half-term) each year.

## Eligibility

There are 12 places on the programme. Students must be 17 during the relevant academic year and be attending a state 6<sup>th</sup> form school/college. They must commit to attending all nine sessions.

## Application process

Students must prepare a short article (approx. one A4 page or a short audio/video) on one of the following topics:

- Climate change - what can I do to help?
- Are footballers paid too much?
- Social care in the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- The value of the Elderly in society

Each year invitations to apply will be sent out through the tutors at the local state 6<sup>th</sup> Form schools/college with details of how and when to apply.

## Feedback from previous students

*"I enjoyed the project and would definitely recommend it to anyone considering a career in medicine. I especially enjoyed speaking to patients and learning about how their specific treatment for the same disease varied slightly from patient to patient. It reminded me of the difference between treating disease and treating patients, which I believe is hugely important in medicine, and I hope will help me to provide quality care throughout my own career."*

*"This programme has confirmed that medicine is a career path for me. It has given me a great insight into the profession and lives of a doctor across many specialties. Meeting patients with conditions such as MS and seeing how their treatment has helped them etc was inspiring. Everyone we had come in were very nice and friendly, each of them did a great job too."*

*"Overall, the sixth form shadowing programme was very informative, helpful and interesting. The variety of guest speakers who came really helped us to explore the many areas of medicine."*

*"It also helped us to better understand the role and responsibilities of a doctor."*

SN/22-06-20

## **The application process - extract from Elle Morris's video**

"The process has been changed this year to make it fairer for all students. It will be comprised two main stages.

### **Stage 1**

The team will ask you produce a piece, which may be writing, audio or video, on a certain topic. This is to help ensure that you are committed to the programme, and we will mainly use this stage to rule-out any candidates who have not devoted time and effort to the programme.

As part of the application process students must prepare a short article (approx. one A4 page or a short audio/video) on one of the following topics:

Climate change - what can I do to help?

Are footballers paid too much?

Social care in the 21<sup>st</sup> century

The Value of the elderly in society

### **Stage 2**

You will be entered into a democratic lottery. You may not be familiar with what this means - so I would encourage you to check out Malcolm Gladwell's podcast on the subject. In summary, it's a random process where we select a small group of individuals from all of the remaining applicants- rather than voting or using selection criteria.

Why are we doing it randomly? Essentially, we want you all to have an equal opportunity regardless of your background or current experience. Just because someone can produce a great application or video, that doesn't mean that they are necessarily more hard-working or deserving of the opportunity. A random selection also means that we are more likely to get a diverse and representative group of students.

So, in summary, this year your application will mainly be used for screening- whereas the final decision will be a democratic lottery. If you have any further questions about this, please feel free to get in touch - thank you"

**Link to Malcolm Gladwell's podcast:**

<http://revisionisthistory.com/episodes/44-the-powerball-revolution>