

Transforming UK physiotherapy practice-based learning through the Common Placement Assessment Form -





Uptake and applicability across all areas of practice

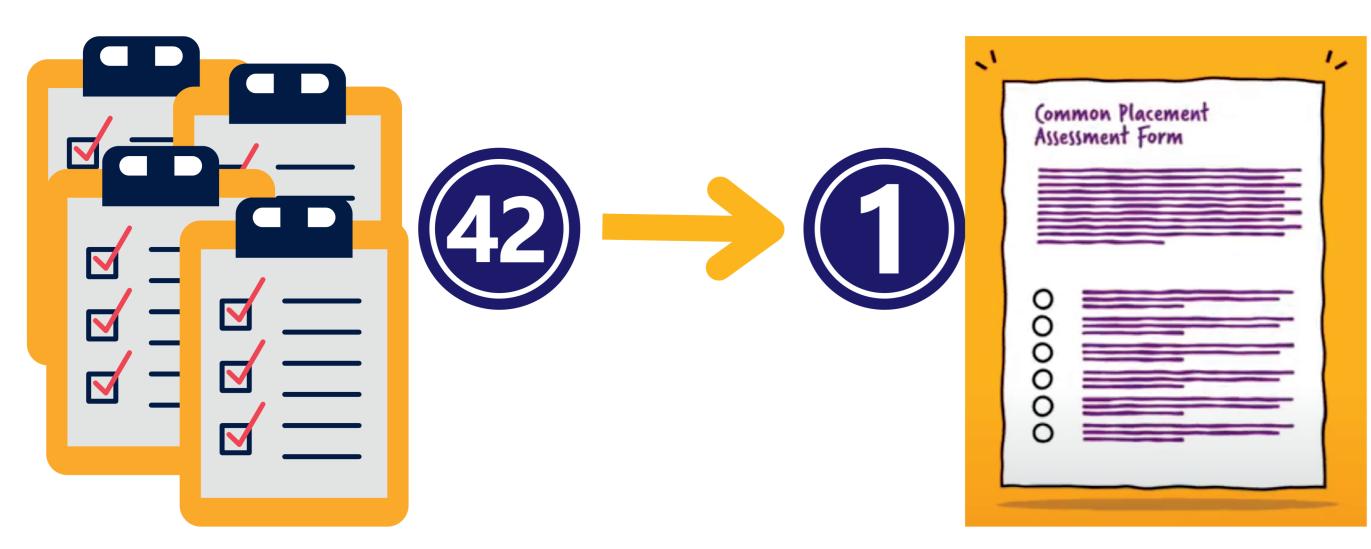
Author: Tamsin Baird
The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy

1. INTRODUCTION

- In 2020, 42 different physiotherapy placement assessment forms were in use across 54 United Kingdom (UK) universities. Many of these forms were not applicable across all four pillars of physiotherapy practice clinical, leadership, research and education.
- The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP) saw opportunity to create one form that could be used by all learners and across all pillars of practice. This also enabled prioritisation to be placed on the knowledge, skills and behaviours needed of the entire future physiotherapy workforce to thrive in modern, complex and diverse UK health care systems.
- The Common Placement Assessment Form (CPAF) was launched in September 2021.

2. PURPOSE

- The aim of our study was to;
 - a. Explore how many UK universities had adopted CPAF since its launch
 - b. Assess the applicability of CPAF across the four pillars of physiotherapy practice



3. METHODS

- A survey was created in conjunction with members of the CPAF working group and disseminated to all UK universities running a physiotherapy programme.
- The survey was open for 6 weeks between May and June 2022 and contained 9 questions that enabled open, closed, qualitative and quantitative responses.

4. RESULTS



93% survey response rate



98% uptake of CPAF across
UK
universities



Over 6,500
UK physiotherapy
students using
1 placement form



100% of universities report applicability across all 4 pillars of practice

5. DISCUSSION

- This data clearly demonstrates the successful uptake of CPAF across UK universities This was essential to its ambition.
- The applicability of CPAF across all areas of physiotherapy practice is exciting for the evolution of our profession. It opens up more diversity in placement settings, better reflecting current health care provision and providing more opportunity to see physiotherapy through a range of different lenses. Not only will this inspire future careers but also offer an understanding of the breadth of the profession.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- A standardised way of assessing students on placement with the key knowledge, skills and behaviours of the future workforce at its core will influence future physiotherapy practice.
- More students being assessed the same way means more ability to shape what is important to the profession as it continues to evolve.
- Future work to focus on the evaluation of CPAF including user feedback and analysis of specific placement settings.

