

# Bridging the Gap: Developing and Evaluating an Online Undergraduate Interdisciplinary Teaching Module

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## Introduction

Effective collaboration between primary and secondary care is essential to prevent fragmented care and miscommunication, which adversely affect patient outcomes. The impact of such interdisciplinary education on undergraduate education however, is under-researched. This study aimed to explore the use of interdisciplinary education in the field of women's health and early pregnancy care, with specialties collaborating to provide an integrative learning environment for medical students.

## Methods

### Delphi Study

### Teaching Methods Key Learning Objectives

### Online Module Creation Pilot

### Student Feedback

Multiple rounds of questionnaires including educational leads, GPs, O&G academic leads, O&G teaching fellows and University of Bristol medical students

Focus on enhancing specialty to specialty collaboration, with benefits including understanding roles and promoting mutual respect

Essential components were patient centred journeys, role clarity and referral processes

Pre and post intervention student feedback collected using and Interprofessional Collaborative Competency Attainment Survey

## Results

### Delphi Study

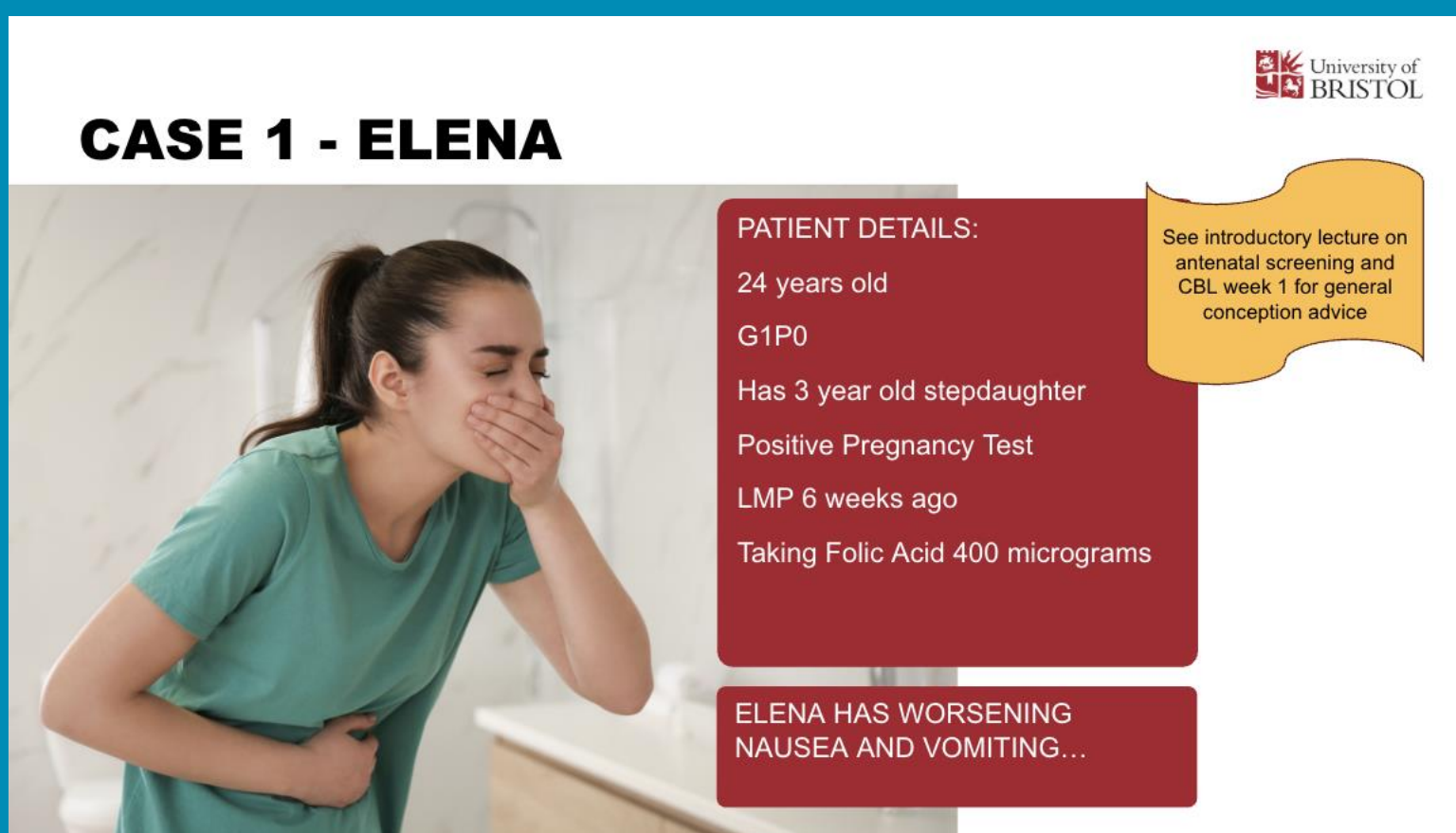
- Participants agreed teaching should emphasize
- ❑ Case based learning
  - ❑ Understanding of the roles of GPs and specialists
  - ❑ Real world challenges for patients and their care pathways
  - ❑ Women's health in primary care and referral pathways



### Teaching Module

Early pregnancy care was taught to 80 4<sup>th</sup> year medical students at the University of Bristol using an interactive online teaching session  
Patient centered journeys illustrated the intended learning objectives

**CASE 1 - ELENA**

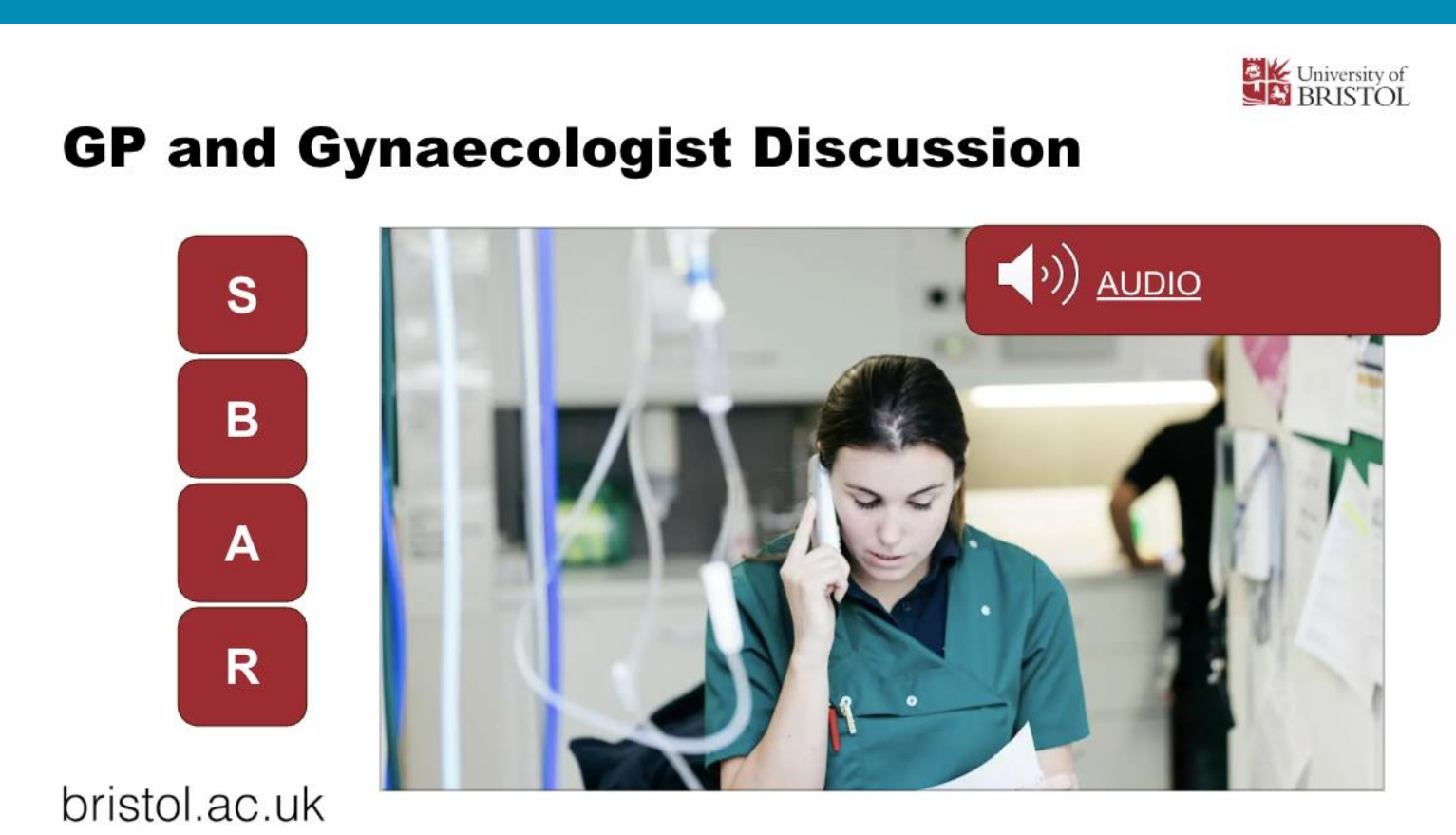


**PATIENT DETAILS:**  
24 years old  
G1P0  
Has 3 year old stepdaughter  
Positive Pregnancy Test  
LMP 6 weeks ago  
Taking Folic Acid 400 micrograms

See introductory lecture on antenatal screening and GBL week 1 for general conception advice

**ELENA HAS WORSENING NAUSEA AND VOMITING ...**

**GP and Gynaecologist Discussion**



S  
B  
A  
R

**AUDIO**

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**Samantha's Journey**



Positive Pregnancy Test  
Samantha confirms pregnancy at home

Vaginal Bleeding  
Samantha has light bleeding and feels well

GP appointment  
Clinical assessment of bleeding in pregnancy

Early Pregnancy Assessment  
Ultrasound and Nurse review

Presents to Emergency Department  
Heavy bleeding of one pad an hour

Admission to Gynaecology Ward

Heavier Vaginal Bleeding  
Samantha becomes clinically unstable

Emergency Theatre  
Clinical assessment of bleeding in pregnancy

Discharged back to GP Care

Referral to Specialist  
Recurrent Miscarriage Clinic

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**Shivani's Journey**



Pelvic Pain

GP appointment

Referral to Gynaecology

EPC appointment

Admitted to Gynaecology Ward

Emergency Theatre

Discharged Home

**Ectopic Pregnancy**

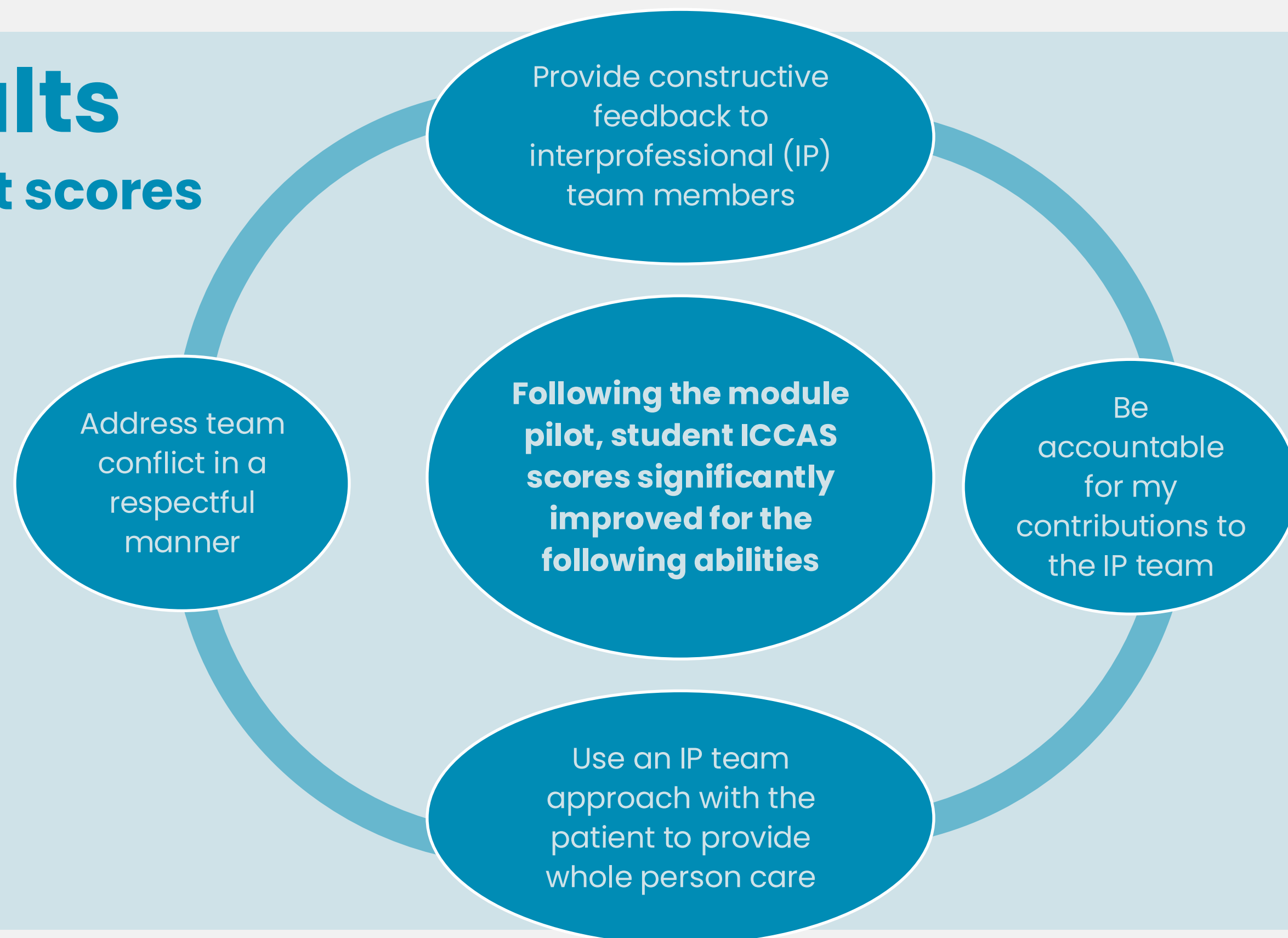
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Students completed interactive tasks throughout the teaching

A resource booklet with clinical information accompanied the module

## Results

### Student scores



## Discussion

Our module reframes the “them and us” mindset between primary and secondary care, fostering collaboration and mutual understanding. It equips learners with knowledge to manage early pregnancy care while enhancing their understanding of healthcare pathways. By providing insights into patient experiences and the importance of interdisciplinary communication, this module prepares students for real-world challenges. To our knowledge, this is the first interdisciplinary educational session designed specifically for an undergraduate setting.

## Key Messages

- ✓ The use of interdisciplinary education at the undergraduate level is underutilized and a golden opportunity for further development
- ✓ Collaboration across specialties is essential to streamline care and improve student understanding of women's health and care journeys

## REFERENCES

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