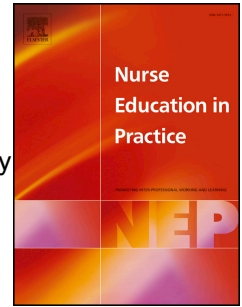


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Learning diversity in nurse education and practice - Current challenges, contemporary perspectives and innovative solutions

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NEP: Abstract for Special Edition Call for Papers

Title: Learning Diversity in Nurse Education and Practice - current challenges, contemporary perspectives and innovative solutions

Keywords: Diversity, Learning Needs, Professional Education, Practice, Neurodiversity, Dyslexia

The number of students identified as having additional and diverse learning needs entering higher education in the UK has increased significantly in the few decades (The Higher Education Statistics Agency 2013). This trend is also reported internationally as the education sector responds to legislative and societal changes in diverse student populations (Azzopardi et al 2012, Troxel, 2010). Similarly, the number of students who have diverse learning needs choosing to enter nurse education has shown an increase (Howlin et al 2014, Hargreaves et al 2014, Wray et al 2012). Equitable experiences and opportunities for all students irrespective of personal characteristics, learning needs or diversity has challenged educators and clinicians as they seek to deliver an inclusive educational experience that also meets the standards and competencies required by professional regulatory bodies such as the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC 2010).

Neurodiverse people – for this special edition those who have dyslexia, dyspraxia and Attention Deficit (Hyperactivity) Disorder - are often drawn to people-orientated professions including nursing, medicine, physiotherapy and occupational therapy as

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