


Transforming Polypectomy Education: One Step at a Time




Research Aims




Introduction

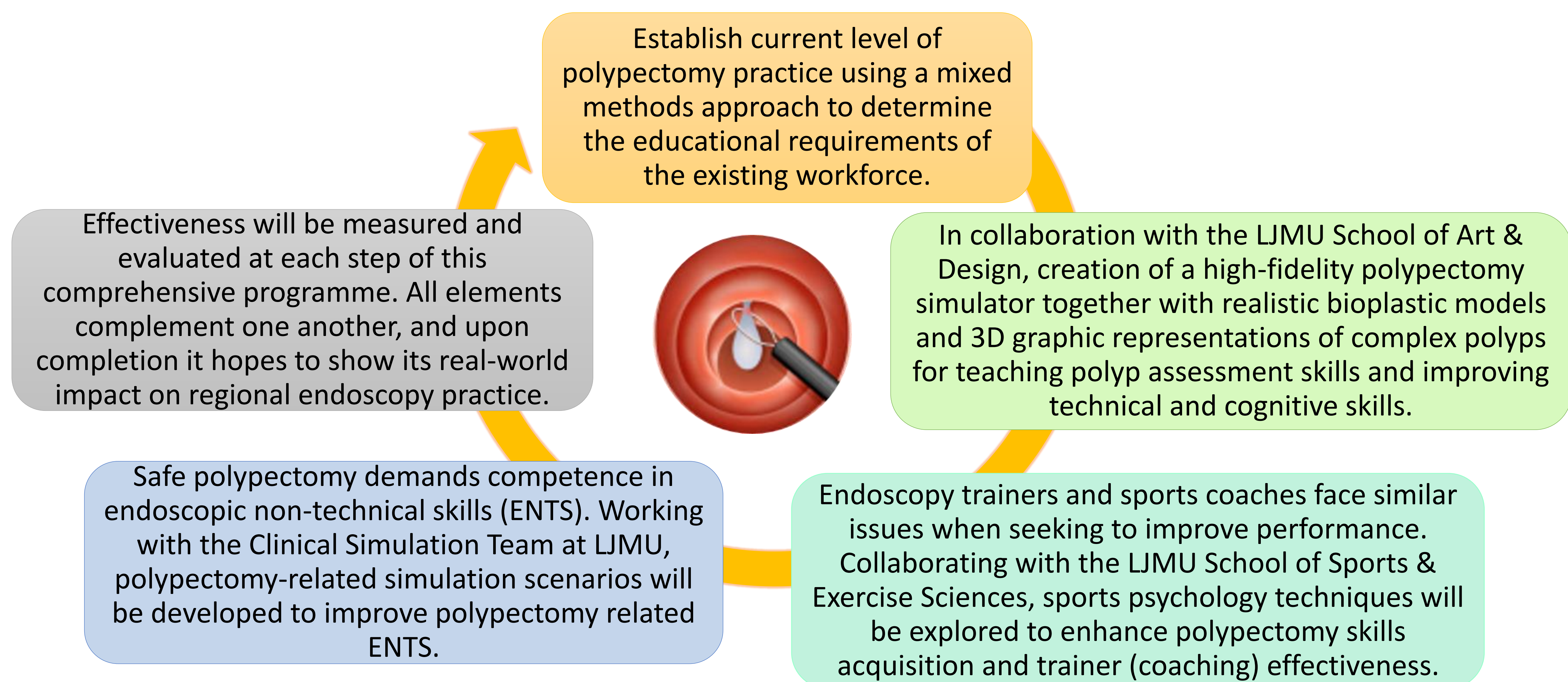
 Colorectal cancer is the 2nd most common cause of cancer death in the UK⁽¹⁾. Bowel cancers start as benign polyps that can be detected and removed during colonoscopy⁽²⁾; polypectomy is therefore an essential part of NHS strategy for cancer prevention.

 Simulators available for teaching polypectomy lack fidelity⁽³⁾, so most training is undertaken on live patients. NHS service pressures limit opportunities for hands-on training and practising on patients raises ethical issues.

 Even amongst independent colonoscopists, there is evidence of a significant skills deficit⁽⁴⁾; polyp assessment is poor and resections are too often incomplete. This results in patients undergoing unnecessary surgery.

 Effectiveness of simulation training in polypectomy and its translation into clinical practice is currently unknown⁽⁵⁾. Our aim is to establish a more effective training model for polypectomy and create a clinically effective and competent colonoscopists workforce.

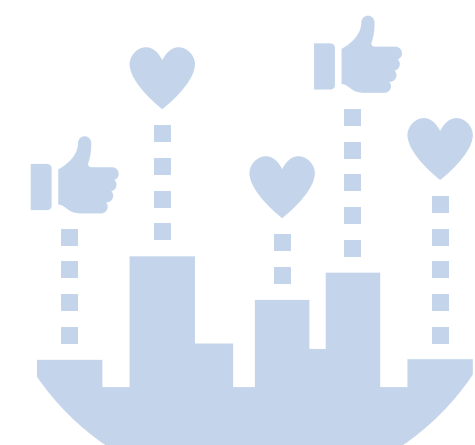
Methods



Conclusions/Impact to Practice

 Successful transformation of polypectomy education in the region should create a more confident and competent workforce, improving efficiency and producing better outcomes for patients.

 Moving more polypectomy training into the laboratory will reduce its impact on service delivery.

 Innovations derived from this project will be shared with the wider endoscopy training community and have potential to transform approaches to polypectomy training in the UK.

References

⁽¹⁾ Cancer Research UK (2022). *Cancer mortality for common cancers*. Available at: <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/cancer-statistics/mortality/common-cancers-compared#heading-Zero>

⁽²⁾ Hart, A.R. and Kennedy, H.J. (2011) Preventing bowel cancer: an insight for clinicians. *Therapeutic Advances in Medical Oncology*, 3(6) 269-277. DOI:10.1177/1758834011419550

⁽³⁾ van der Wiel, S.E. et al. (2016) "Simulator training in gastrointestinal endoscopy – from basic training to advanced endoscopic procedures," *Best Practice & Research Clinical Gastroenterology*, 30(3), pp. 375–387. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bpg.2016.04.004>.

⁽⁴⁾ Siau, K., Hawkes, N.D. and Dunckley, P. (2018) "Training in endoscopy," *Current Treatment Options in Gastroenterology*, 16(3), pp. 345–361. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11938-018-0191-1>.

⁽⁵⁾ Patel, R.V. et al. (2021) "Simulation-based training improves polypectomy skills among practicing endoscopists," *Endoscopy International Open*, 09(11). Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1055/a-1525-5620>.