Soft skills in the pharmacy curriculum

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Objectives

- Define soft skills
- Why soft skills?
- Where should we be going?
- Models to follow
Audience question
What are soft skills?
Definition of soft skills

Personal attributes that enable someone to interact effectively and harmoniously with other people.

(Oxford Dictionary, online)

- Communication
- Critical thinking
- Problem solving
- Teamwork
- Time management
- Conflict management
- Cultural awareness
- Responsibility
- Leadership
- Work ethic
What are the hard skills?

- Essential to the job function
- Easily quantified

- Technique
- Calculating doses
- Prescription processing
- Knowledge
How do you want the balance?

Hard skills

Soft skills
But why soft skills?

**Soft skills = Hard skills**

- Develop from experiences from student life and over a career
- Hard to quantify
- How to measure them and assess them?
Where should we be going?

Support efforts to broaden skills developed across the wide perspective over the entire educational experience including postgraduate education so as to achieve pharmacists who have the knowledge and skills to contribute for patient care, lead and advocate for innovation.
Models to follow

- Emphasise active engagement of students in the learning models
- Foster scientific inquiry and innovation
- Immerse students in patient care early

- Case-based learning
- Flipped Classroom
- Research Projects
- Longitudinal approach
- Experientials
Different experiences

Regional, European, International student networking

Education and Culture
Lifelong Learning Programme
ERASMUS
2015: 80% of pharmacy students going on mobility
POSTGRADUATE PROFESSIONAL DOCTORATE IN PHARMACY

- Level 8 degree in collaboration with College of Pharmacy, University of Illinois, Chicago
- Develop advanced professional skills in clinical pharmacy
POSTGRADUATE PROFESSIONAL DOCTORATE IN PHARMACY

- Inter-professional learning at the professional sites with consultant physicians, nurses and other healthcare professionals
- Take up applied pharmacy research

Journal clubs, case presentations, scenario analysis, reflective portfolios, presentations and discussions
Thank You