College of Radiographers Industrial Partnership Scheme

Emotional Intelligence in Radiographers project

19th October 2010

Interim Report: by Professor Stuart Mackay on behalf of the emotional Intelligence research team at the University of Salford.

Background

This project was given CORIPS approval in February 2010. It is a national online survey of radiographer emotional intelligence.

Aim

To determine the emotional intelligence (EI) levels of radiographers and radiography subpopulations e.g. diagnostic radiographers, mammographers, in the UK and compare them to other disciplines/professions

Objectives

- 1. to conduct a UK wide survey of radiographers emotional intelligence
- 2. to compare radiographer subgroups to each other and to other discipline/professional groups
- 3. to disseminate this data thereby enabling and promoting a new strand of research into Radiographer EI which could impact upon patient care and the profession
- 4. to promote the College of Radiographers aim to develop the research capability of radiographers

Update

In February a radiographer from the Countess of Chester Hospital was appointed as the research assistant on the project. She has been developing her research knowledge and contributing to the project.

Ethical approval was obtained from the University of Salford Ethics committee in March 2010. The survey began on the 1st April 2010.

The data collection phase of the survey has now closed with over 2,000 radiographers completing the Trait Emotional Intelligence Questionnaire. This represents approx 8 percent of the UK radiographer population and is a very pleasing sample size. Data analysis is underway and early signs are that the sample is closely representative of the population of UK radiographers.

An intense marketing strategy was employed between February and October 2010 to enable such a large sample size to be obtained. This included:-

- Two EI in Radiography articles in Synergy
- Attendance and EI representation at BNMS, Symposium Mammographicum, UKRC, BNMS conferences
- A web site was set up to advertise and direct radiographers to the online survey
- Several news stories were written and appeared in Synergy news and Rad magazine (2 on the front page!).
- One letter to the editor was written and appeared in Synergy in October 2010.
- Emails and paper advertising materials were sent to a wide range of radiographer related networks.

A 'work in progress' presentation was given to the NW Society of radiographers study day 25th September 2010. This was the first formal dissemination of the work.

Data has been obtained from the originator of the Trait EI questionnaire and this will be used to compare mixed occupations to the radiographer group.

Future plans

The data analysis will be undertaken during October/ November and an article will be written up and submitted for publication early in 2011. Two conferences have been targeted for dissemination, UKRC - May 2011 and the Conference of the Society for the Study of Individual Difference - July 2011.