

Keynote Speaker

**“That’s not what real patients think, want or do”: Fostering meaningful contributions from simulated patients**

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Simulated (standardized) patients (SPs) have the potential to make deeply meaningful contributions to clinician development. However, in practice there are values and processes that mitigate this potential. The sentence: “That’s not what real patients think, want or do” reflects the consequences of this mitigation. In this session, we will explore the ways in which SPs currently contribute to teaching, including in assessments. We will critically examine approaches to this work to ensure that we optimise SPs contributions; that we enable SPs to offer patients’ perspectives rather than those filtered through clinician lenses. We will consider core facets of SP methodology such as recruitment strategies, scenario design, training for role portrayal and for feedback and the use of assessment forms. Attendees will be encouraged to reflect on their own practices to foster meaningful contributions from SPs.