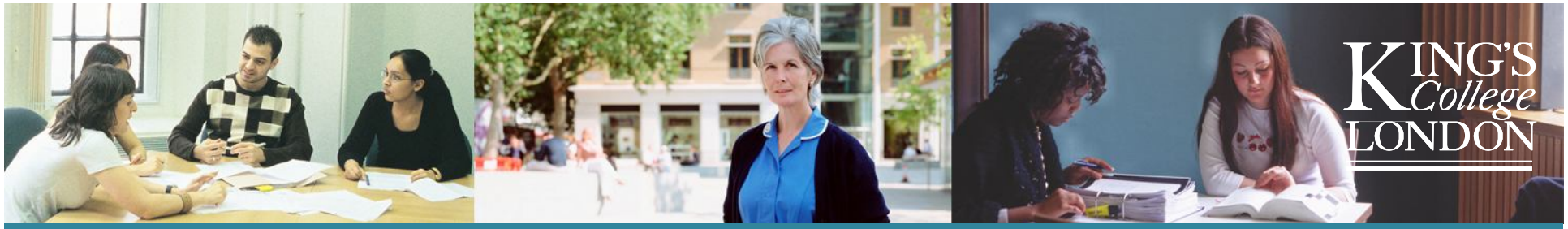


Florence Nightingale School of Nursing & Midwifery

# Turning Skill into Practice in the Clinical Setting

***Future of Nursing Workforce 4th National Conference***

**Dr Jacqueline Bloomfield**
**King's College London.**

*Clinical skills are the bedrock of nursing practice. They must be learnt, practised and retained in order to provide quality care.*

# Drivers for Change

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- Traditional methods of clinical skill education lack durability
- Challenges:
  - Changing context of healthcare and nursing
  - Rate of technological change and innovation
  - Cost and resource limitations vs demand for quality
  - Releasing staff for skills updates, training, education
  - Changing workforce demographics.

# What is needed?

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- Re-think traditional methods of educational delivery
- Greater use of technology in clinical skills education
- Integrate ongoing skills education across the student and established workforce populations.

# How?

- Flexible educational delivery, workplace and blended learning
- E-learning for clinical skills education
- High fidelity simulation
- Novel approaches to learning and teaching
  - Second life
  - Wikis, blogs, podcasts
  - Gaming industry (e.g Wii)

# Future challenges

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- Commitment to challenge conventional thinking and practice
- Need for sustained investment
- Improved collaboration between HEIs and service providers
- IT literacy.

# Summary

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- Quality nursing and healthcare demands workforce proficient in clinical skills.
- Skills education and training must incorporate a variety of approaches, be delivered flexibly, and reflect the context of the care setting and organisation in which they are to be used.