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# Student-led rehabilitation groups and clinics in entry-level health education: a scoping review.

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# 1 Student-led rehabilitation groups and clinics in entry-level health 2 education: a scoping review

## 3 Abstract<level 1 heading>

4 **Objective:** The purpose of this review was to identify, map, and describe the characteristics  
5 of student-led physical rehabilitation groups and clinics in entry-level health education.

6 **Introduction:** Student-led groups and clinics for physical rehabilitation are an emergent  
7 phenomenon in entry-level health professional education. Data gathered in this scoping  
8 review aimed to provide an understanding of the range and scope of student-led groups and  
9 clinics within a physical rehabilitation context and establish the evaluation undertaken to  
10 date from a student, service user, and stakeholder perspective. It also aimed to identify  
11 other important factors in the design, execution, and feasibility of the concept. Finally, it  
12 aimed to identify gaps in the literature that can be addressed by further research.

13 **Inclusion criteria:** This scoping review considered studies and sources that identify student-  
14 led methods for carrying out physical rehabilitation for service users in either an exercise  
15 group or clinic environment. Students and groups/clinics on entry-level qualifying courses  
16 were considered. The review considered primary and secondary research in any paradigm  
17 as well as text and opinion articles.

18 **Methods:** The JBI methodology for conducting scoping reviews was employed. The  
19 following databases were searched: MEDLINE, CINAHL, AMED, ERIC, Scopus, and  
20 SPORTDiscus. Searches were limited to January 1, 1998 to the day of the search (November  
21 1, 2019). Non- English articles were excluded. To supplement the review, searches for gray  
22 literature were also undertaken. Data extraction was performed by two reviewers using a  
23 pre-determined data extraction form developed by the authors.

24 **Results:** The results of the review are presented in narrative form and supported by tables  
25 and figures. This review identified 523 sources of information of which 111 were screened  
26 at full-text stage and 48 sources were eligible to be included in the final scoping review. A  
27 wide range of student-led groups and clinics that provide physical rehabilitation exist  
28 globally. Drivers for the clinics and groups vary; key aims included providing a learning  
29 environment for student skill development, serving as clinical placements, and providing a  
30 social enterprise. Evaluations focused on student experience, service user experience, and  
31 cost-benefit analyses.

32 **Conclusions:** Student-led groups and clinics are at very different stages of development and  
33 use within entry-level curricula. The objectives and drivers for groups and clinics vary  
34 immensely worldwide, and therefore the evolution of groups and clinics has driven a wide  
35 and varied number of models globally.

36 **Keywords:** learning; outcomes; rehabilitation; student-led clinics; student-led groups

## 37 Introduction<level 1 heading>

38 Student-led groups and clinics are becoming more prevalent in entry-level health education  
39 worldwide.<sup>1</sup> Student-led groups and clinics are modes of student-led health interventions  
40 where students learn professional skills and competencies<sup>2</sup> and take primary responsibility  
41 for organizing and leading a health care service.<sup>3</sup> In these models, the students and health  
42 services are generally overseen by qualified health practitioners.<sup>4</sup>

43 Commonly used and established within the medical education curriculum,<sup>3</sup> student-led  
44 clinics are believed to originate in the United States<sup>5</sup> and involve students being responsible  
45 for leading many aspects of a clinical service.<sup>2</sup> This experience can be often be similar to that  
46 of a clinical placement, where students are supervised by a qualified practitioner<sup>5</sup>; however,  
47 the operations are led and directed by students who are responsible for aspects, such as  
48 clinical procedures, as well as administrative tasks, such as appointment bookings.<sup>6</sup> More  
49 widely, this model is beginning to be adopted as an integral part of the entry-level curricula  
50 of health professionals (HPs).<sup>1</sup> Rather than solely providing the traditional diagnostic and  
51 interventional procedures common to medical student-led clinics,<sup>3</sup> these initiatives can also  
52 provide physical rehabilitation and services to those with long-term health conditions by  
53 involving a wider group of student HPs.<sup>5</sup> Similar models of student-led groups for physical  
54 rehabilitation are used within the health and exercise field of kinesiology and sports  
55 therapy, with experiential learning a key driver for their implementation.<sup>7</sup> Health  
56 professionals, for the purposes of this review, can in the widest sense be considered to  
57 include nurses, pharmacists, the allied health professions, such as physiotherapists and  
58 occupational therapists, as well as exercise professionals, such as kinesiologists and sports  
59 therapists.

60 The terms “student-led groups” and “student-led clinics” are both commonly referred to as  
61 student-led groups and a variety of cohorts of students are included in this concept.<sup>8</sup>  
62 Student-run free clinics (SRFCs) are operations delivered by students that tend to focus on  
63 serving marginalized populations.<sup>9</sup> Another method of student-led health-service delivery is  
64 service learning, which is defined as an experiential learning opportunity that combines  
65 clear educational goals and service to the community.<sup>10</sup> Therefore, student-led groups and  
66 clinics are often defined as a type of service learning. For the purposes of this review, the  
67 term “student-led groups and clinics” will be used to encompass the above concepts (ie,  
68 student-led groups, student-led clinics, SRFCs, and service learning).

69 Internationally, the drivers for the adoption of student-led groups and clinics varies as does  
70 the tasks and activities undertaken by students.<sup>11</sup> Student-led groups and clinics are  
71 emerging around the world as a means of providing support to under-served populations.<sup>11</sup>  
72 The first documented student-led groups in the USA utilized the pro bono model, which was  
73 devised to provide a student-led clinical service to under-served populations at little or no  
74 cost.<sup>11</sup> Student-led groups and clinics are implemented in both university and  
75 interprofessional frameworks.<sup>12</sup> Some professional regulators have a requirement for  
76 university-professional, student-led groups and clinics to take place as an integral part of the

77 curriculum.<sup>1</sup> Interprofessional frameworks for the student-led group and clinic model are  
78 becoming more prevalent in entry-level HP education,<sup>12</sup> noted in particular for improving  
79 interprofessional collaboration skills and attitudes,<sup>12-14</sup> as well as a cost-effective means of  
80 fulfilling health-service delivery gaps.<sup>3</sup>

81 More recently, interest has grown with regard to using student-led groups or clinics as a  
82 potential substitution for clinical placement hours in some parts of the world, in the face of  
83 clinical placement capacity challenges.<sup>15,16</sup> Student-led groups and clinics have been noted  
84 to provide high-quality, low-cost health care services<sup>17</sup> as well as a feasible solution for  
85 student learning,<sup>15,18</sup> and are therefore proposed as a sustainable model for clinical  
86 education.<sup>19</sup> Student-led groups and clinics are a relatively new phenomenon in Europe<sup>20</sup>;  
87 however, anecdotally, it is accepted that student-led group and clinic learning have formed  
88 a part of entry-level health care education as a means of providing contextualized learning<sup>21</sup>  
89 alongside the well-established model of high fidelity simulation, which can further enhance  
90 clinical reasoning. High fidelity simulation is concerned with the imitation of real-world  
91 scenarios, often of patient encounters, to allow students to practice their skills, learning,  
92 and reasoning.<sup>22</sup> High fidelity simulation, whilst established with a well-founded place in the  
93 curriculum,<sup>23</sup> is recognized as a different learning experience and therefore not directly  
94 comparable<sup>24</sup> with student-led groups.

95 The objectives of student-led learning in the rehabilitation context are to target specific  
96 skills development and to experience real life health care with varied populations and  
97 conditions.<sup>1</sup> This is considered to not only provide benefit to students themselves but also to  
98 the service users involved in the rehabilitation process.<sup>20</sup>

99 Although medical and clinic-based student-led services, such as those run by medical,  
100 nursing, or pharmacy students, are prevalent within entry-level curricula internationally,<sup>11</sup>  
101 such clinics often follow the medical model and may only comprise diagnostic and single  
102 interventions for practices, such as imaging and prescription of medication.<sup>3</sup> It is recognized  
103 that students participating in student-led or service-led activities learn about the specific  
104 context in which the service is provided and the skills required for that service and  
105 practice.<sup>18</sup> To that end, as this scoping review is concerned with physical rehabilitation, the  
106 scope is limited to studies that can demonstrate elements of physical rehabilitation, either  
107 by inclusion of physical rehabilitation professionals and/or inclusion of exercise as an  
108 intervention as part of the group or clinic.

109 The concept of a student-led group or clinic is a teaching methodology<sup>25</sup> with a focus on  
110 developing students' learning and skills.<sup>23</sup> In addition, student-led groups and clinics are  
111 considered to be a supervised health service for service users<sup>26</sup> and a social enterprise<sup>8</sup>;  
112 therefore it is of interest to scope all of these aspects as part of the review. Student-led  
113 groups and clinics are considered to have mutual interest for both students and the service  
114 users involved, thereby providing benefit for all.<sup>7</sup> This scoping review aims to establish the  
115 literature base in these areas.

116 Data gathered in this scoping review will allow for an understanding of the range and scope  
117 of student-led groups and clinics within a physical rehabilitation context and establish the  
118 evaluation undertaken to date from a student, service user, and stakeholder perspective, as  
119 well as identification of any other important factors in the design, execution, and feasibility  
120 of the concept. It will also identify gaps in the literature that can be addressed by further  
121 research.

122 A preliminary search was undertaken in CINAHL, Cochrane Library (Systematic Reviews),  
123 Education Search Complete, ERIC, PEDro, PubMed, PROSPERO, Scopus, and the *JBI*  
124 *Database of Systematic Reviews and Implementation Reports* to establish whether  
125 systematic or scoping reviews published or in-progress on this topic already exist, and none  
126 were found. This scoping review, therefore, provides the first mapping of student-led  
127 physical rehabilitation groups and clinics in entry-level health care education.

128 The objective of this scoping review was to identify, map, and describe the characteristics of  
129 student-led physical rehabilitation groups and clinics in entry-level health education.

## 130 Review questions<level 1 heading>

- 131 • What types of student-led groups or clinics with a physical rehabilitation focus exist?
- 132 • What are the characteristics of these groups (such as but not limited to, structure of  
133 groups or clinics, how the groups or clinics are run, who runs the group or clinic, and  
134 types of service users involved)?
- 135 • How are student-led groups or clinics currently evaluated and what outcomes are  
136 used?
- 137 • Who is evaluated and how are these evaluations undertaken? Including  
138 consideration of participants and service users, as well as students running the  
139 groups and other relevant stakeholders.

## 140 Inclusion criteria<level 1 heading>

### 141 Participants<level 2 heading>

142 This review considered entry-level students involved in student-led groups and clinics in the  
143 fields of health professions and sport. This definition has been modified from the original  
144 published protocol<sup>27</sup> to more accurately reflect the scope and role of HP globally, which is  
145 relevant for this review. These are university or interprofessional groups, including HP entry-  
146 level students and/or sport students involved in student-led groups (eg, kinesiology, sports  
147 and exercise students, or sports therapy students). These aforementioned sports students,  
148 whilst not always considered under the traditional HP banner, have implemented physical  
149 rehabilitation in student-led groups and clinics within entry-level sports curricula for some

150 time.<sup>7</sup> It is considered there may be concepts of these long-established groups and clinics in  
151 sport that may be of direct relevance to this review. For the purposes of this review, entry-  
152 level health professional students as well as kinesiology, sports and exercise students, and  
153 sports therapy students are considered under the term of HP.

## 154 Concept<level 2 heading>

155 The concept was student-led physical rehabilitation groups. This review considered student-  
156 led groups with all types of service users and group participants that included a physical  
157 rehabilitation component. For example, this included those with both specific and multiple  
158 pathologies who received physical rehabilitation as an element of the group.

159 Any student-led group or clinic that included only diagnostic and/or medical interventions  
160 with no physical rehabilitation element were excluded from the review.

161 The particular aspects of this concept that were of interest were as follows.

- 162 i. Types and characteristics of student-led groups and clinics, which included types of  
163 student-led physical rehabilitation groups and clinics in existence; characteristics of  
164 student-led physical rehabilitation groups and clinics; purpose of the student-led  
165 physical rehabilitation groups and clinics; content and nature of the student-led  
166 physical rehabilitation groups and clinics, and where in the curriculum student-led  
167 rehabilitation groups and clinics take place.
- 168 ii. Evaluation of student-led groups and clinics, which included reported learning  
169 undertaken by students who experience student-led physical rehabilitation groups  
170 and/or clinics; reported student assessment practices used for students who  
171 experience student-led physical rehabilitation groups and clinics; reported measures  
172 used to capture student-led rehabilitation groups' and clinics' effectiveness and  
173 acceptability from group participants' perspectives; reported measures used to  
174 capture tutors and stakeholders perceptions/observations of students during  
175 student-led rehabilitation groups and clinics; and reported measures used to capture  
176 feasibility and sustainability of student-led rehabilitation.

## 177 Context<level 2 heading>

178 This scoping review considered literature in the field of HP or sport entry-level education in  
179 developed nations. Developed nations were defined as very high human development (58  
180 countries) in the Human Development Index.<sup>28</sup> Groups and clinics run by students, with a  
181 focus on physical rehabilitation were considered for inclusion. Groups and clinics within a  
182 public or private health care setting, including community and hospital settings as well as  
183 third/voluntary sector and other organizations (eg, education [university] facilities) were  
184 considered for inclusion. Therefore, groups and clinics where students were both  
185 volunteering and/or there as a standard part of their curriculum or clinical education hours  
186 were eligible for inclusion. The students may or may not have been assessed as part of their

187 involvement in the group or clinic. Groups and clinics that undertook medical interventions  
188 or screenings alone were not included.

## 189 Types of sources<level 2 heading>

190 This scoping review considered primary and secondary research using quantitative,  
191 qualitative, and mixed methods study designs for inclusion. This is more explicit than stated  
192 in the protocol, which stated qualitative and quantitative studies. In addition, text and  
193 opinion papers were considered for inclusion in this scoping review. The review also  
194 considered documents developed by professional organizations and accrediting bodies who  
195 are responsible for the development and oversight of student-led groups and clinics in  
196 entry-level HP education.

197 Only articles published in English were included as this is the only language the reviewers  
198 understand, and the authors had time and resource constraints. Articles retrieved from  
199 MEDLINE, CINAHL, AMED, ERIC, SPORTDiscus (via EBSCO), and Scopus were included from  
200 January 1, 1998 until November 1, 2019 (the date of the search). Literature published from  
201 1998 onwards was included as a previous literature review<sup>7</sup> did not find work in the area  
202 preceding that date.

## 203 Methods<level 1 heading>

204 This scoping review was conducted in accordance with the JBI methodology for scoping  
205 reviews<sup>29</sup> and reported according to the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews  
206 and Meta-analysis extension for Scoping Reviews (PRISMA-ScR).<sup>30</sup> This review was  
207 conducted in accordance with an a priori protocol.<sup>27</sup>

## 208 Search strategy<level 2 heading>

209 The search strategy aimed to locate both published and unpublished primary studies,  
210 reviews, and text and opinion papers in the field of student-led groups and clinics for  
211 physical rehabilitation. An initial limited search of MEDLINE, CINAHL, and ERIC was  
212 undertaken to identify articles on the topic. The text words contained in the titles and  
213 abstracts of relevant articles, and the index terms used to describe the articles were used to  
214 develop a full search strategy. The search strategy, including all identified keywords and  
215 index terms, was adapted for each included information source and a second search using  
216 all identified keywords and index terms was undertaken in the following databases:  
217 MEDLINE, CINAHL, AMED, ERIC, SPORTDiscus (all via EBSCO), and Scopus on November 1,  
218 2019 (note a small amendment to the published protocol). The full search strategies are  
219 provided in Appendix I. The reference lists of articles selected for full-text review were  
220 screened for additional papers.

221 To supplement the review, sources of unpublished studies and gray literature searches  
222 included ProQuest Dissertations and Theses, Google Scholar, Open Access Theses and

223 Dissertations (OATD), and EBSCO Open Dissertations following a small amendment to the  
224 published protocol.

## 225 Study screening and selection<level 2 heading>

226 Following the search, all identified citations were collated and uploaded to RefWorks  
227 (ProQuest LLC, Ann Arbor, USA) and duplicates removed. Titles and abstracts were screened  
228 by two independent reviewers for assessment using the agreed inclusion and exclusion  
229 criteria for the review. Any disagreements were resolved via discussion. Full texts were  
230 obtained and screened by two independent reviewers, with disagreements resolved by  
231 discussion. As per guidance on scoping review methodology, there was no critical appraisal  
232 of methodological quality performed as part of this scoping review.<sup>29</sup>

## 233 Data extraction<level 2 heading>

234 Studies that met the inclusion criteria were reviewed in full and data extracted using the  
235 data extraction forms developed in a previous protocol.<sup>27</sup> The data extracted included  
236 specific details about the characteristics of the student-led group/clinic, aims and objectives  
237 of the group, content and design, as well as any evaluation of the group. This could include  
238 the students, service user participants, or any supervising staff (clinical or faculty). Two  
239 independent reviewers extracted data and any disagreements that arose between the  
240 reviewers were resolved through discussion. Authors of papers were contacted to request  
241 missing or additional data, where required.

## 242 Data presentation<level 2 heading>

243 Search results and article selections are summarized in a PRISMA flowchart.<sup>31</sup> The extracted  
244 data is presented in diagrammatic and tabular form in a manner that aligns with the  
245 objective of this scoping review. A narrative summary accompanies the tabulated and/or  
246 charted results and describes how the results relate to the review's objective and  
247 question/s.

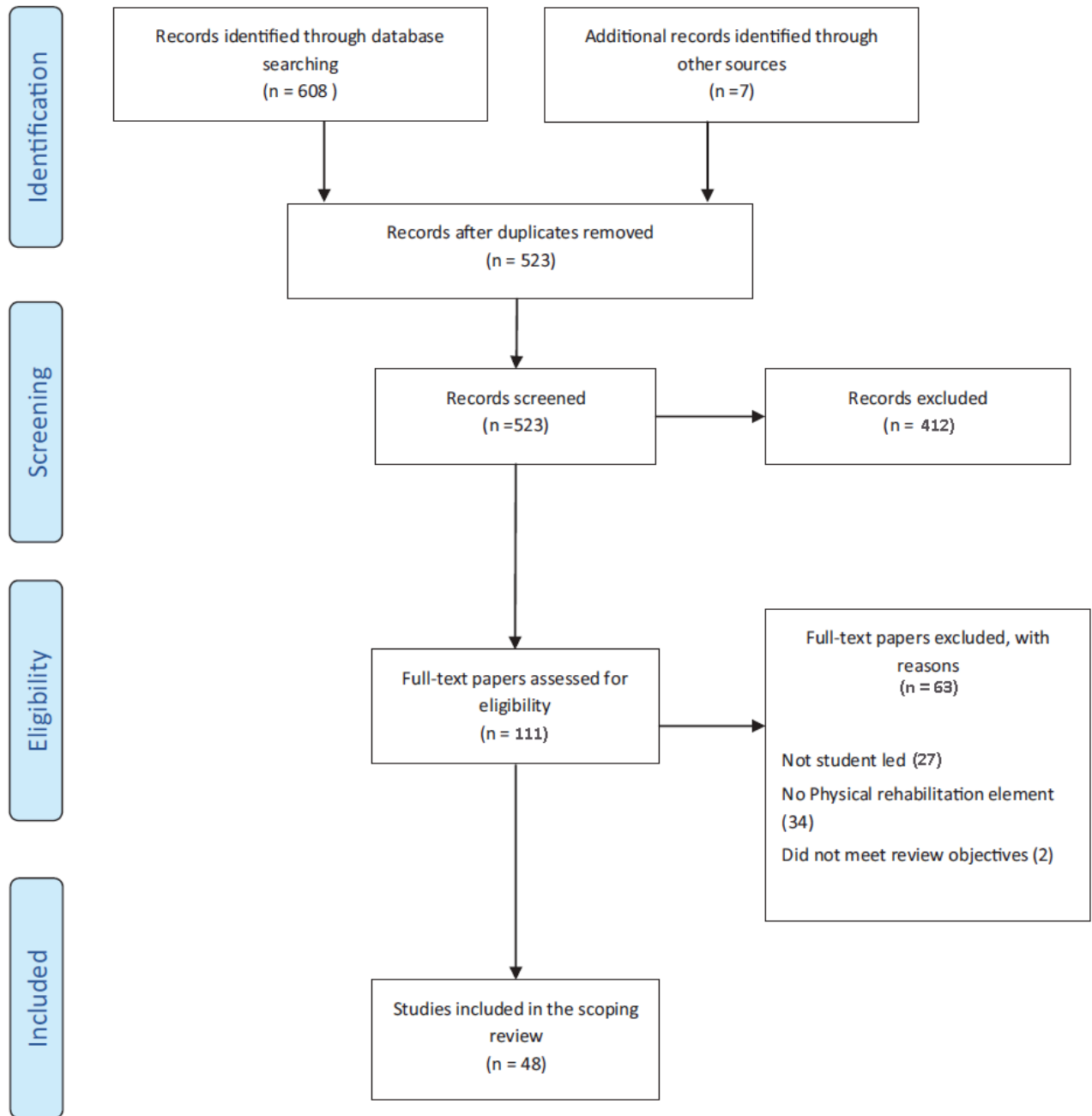
## 248 Results<level 1 heading>

### 249 Study inclusion<level 2 heading>

250 The search yielded 615 records in total. This comprised 608 articles identified through  
251 database searching and an additional seven articles identified through other sources,  
252 namely gray literature searches. One source was identified via a hand search of the full-text  
253 reference lists. After duplicates were removed (n=92), 523 citations remained. The titles and  
254 abstracts of these were screened and 412 had irrelevant titles and/or abstracts and were  
255 excluded. The remaining 111 citations were considered for full-text review, and 63 were  
256 excluded at this stage as they did not meet the review inclusion criteria. Reasons for this  
257 included the group not being student-led (n=27), or there being no physical rehabilitation  
258 element to the group (n=34). Two articles had both of the aforementioned reasons for



259 exclusion. A full list of articles excluded at full-text screening stage with reasons is presented  
260 in Appendix II.



261 **Figure 1: Search results and study selection and inclusion process<sup>21</sup>**

## 262 Characteristics of included studies<level 2 heading>

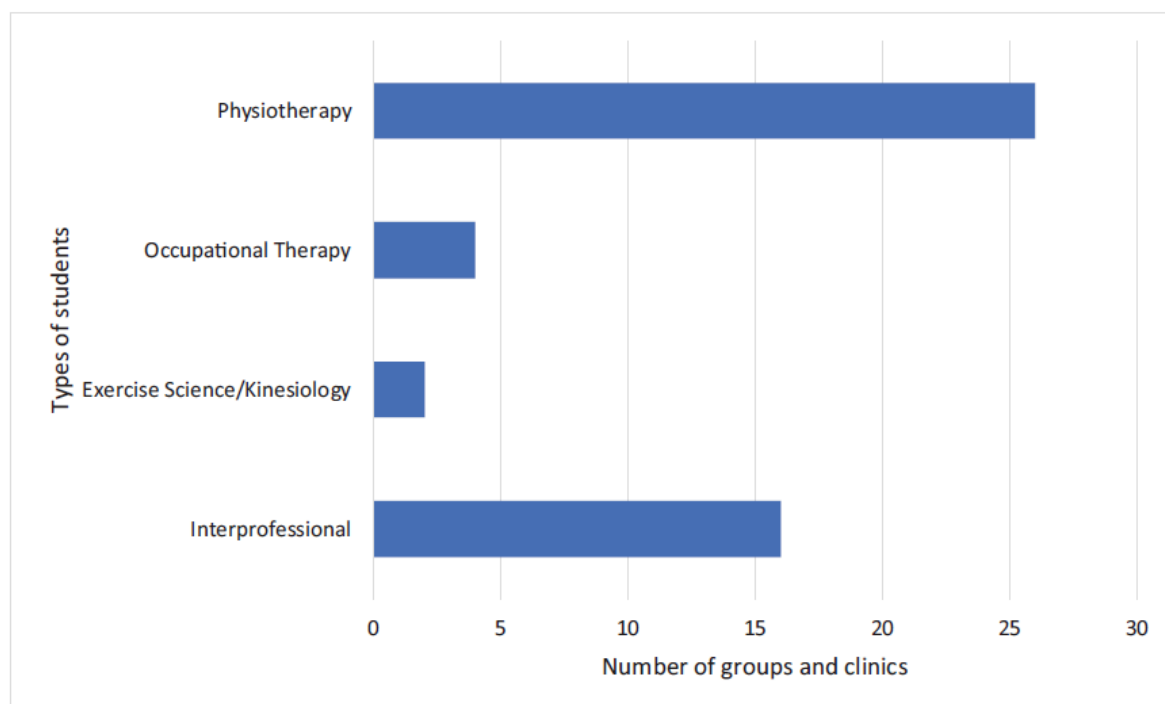
263 Forty-eight citations were included in the final review. See Appendix III for a summary of all  
264 studies. These comprised 42 research studies (including descriptive studies, case reports,  
265 and qualitative and quantitative studies), two implementation reports, two help  
266 guides/project reports, and two webpages detailing student-led clinic outlines. The  
267 geographical location of sources varied. In total the sources came from six different  
268 countries with the majority (65%: 31 sources)<sup>1,13,31-59</sup> coming from the USA. Both help  
269 guides/project reports were sourced from the USA, as well as the majority of research  
270 studies (n=28). Australia had 19% (n=9)<sup>5,8,16,26,60-64</sup> of the sources, most of which were

271 research studies (n=7), as well as one project report and one webpage. The remaining  
272 countries were Canada (four research studies),<sup>9,12,15,65</sup> UK (one study and one webpage),<sup>66,67</sup>  
273 and Ireland<sup>20</sup> and Sweden<sup>68</sup> with one research study each. All studies had relatively small  
274 sample sizes, ranging from under 10 students to a maximum of 119, with the majority of  
275 studies including fewer than 50 participants.

## 276 Review findings<level 2 heading>

### 277 Types of student-led groups and clinics<level 3 heading>

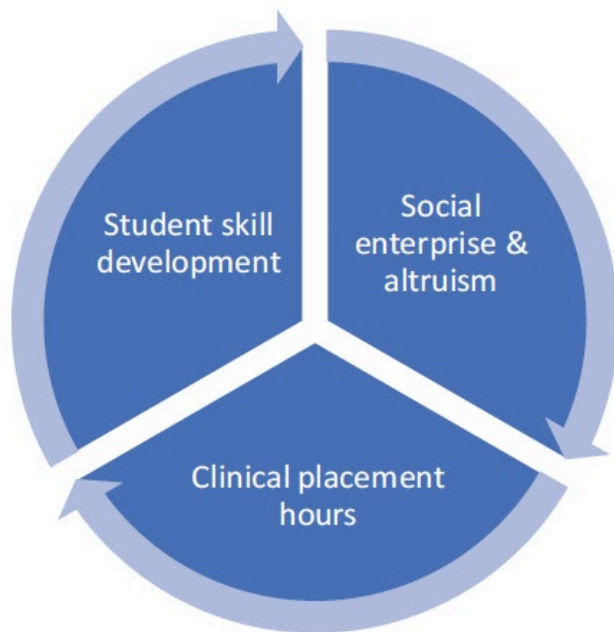
278 A wide range of student-led groups and clinics that provide physical rehabilitation exist  
279 across the six countries from which they are reported. Of the 48 sources, 66%  
280 (n=32)<sup>1,16,20,24,26,32,34-36,38-43,45-48,50,54,56-61,63,65-67,69</sup> of these groups/clinics were led by  
281 university-professional groups, and 33% (n=16)<sup>5,8,9,12,13,15,37,44,49,51-53,55,62,64,68</sup> were  
282 interprofessional in nature. The university-professional, student-led groups were  
283 represented by 54% (n=26)<sup>1,16,20,24,26,34-36,38-39,40,42,45,46,48,54,55,57-60,63,65-67,69</sup> physiotherapy and  
284 8% (n=4)<sup>32,43,47,61</sup> occupational therapy students. Exercise therapy/kinesiology denoted 4%  
285 (n=2)<sup>15,50</sup> of the total number of student-led groups identified by this review.



286 **Figure 2: Types of students involved and number of student-led groups and clinics**

287 Student-led groups and clinics have a wide variety of drivers. Key aims of the included  
288 sources ranged from providing a social enterprise and an altruistic approach to the provision  
289 of health care and rehabilitation to the under-served, to providing a basis for ongoing skills  
290 development through contact with service users. These aims were indicated across a wide  
291 variety of studies and sources, but the social enterprise and altruism objectives occurred  
292 most frequently in the USA. Provision of student-led groups and clinics as clinical placement  
293 hours is also a frequent driver for the model, and this was reported most frequently in  
294 Australia and Canada. Comments were made in some studies as to the sustainability of such

295 student-led models.<sup>1,42,48,65</sup> Sustainability was noted to be a greater challenge when  
296 student-led clinics were operated as part of a university department<sup>68</sup> requiring more staff  
297 resources, equipment, and access to the appropriate environment for client interactions.



298 **Figure 3: Aims of student-led groups and clinics**

298

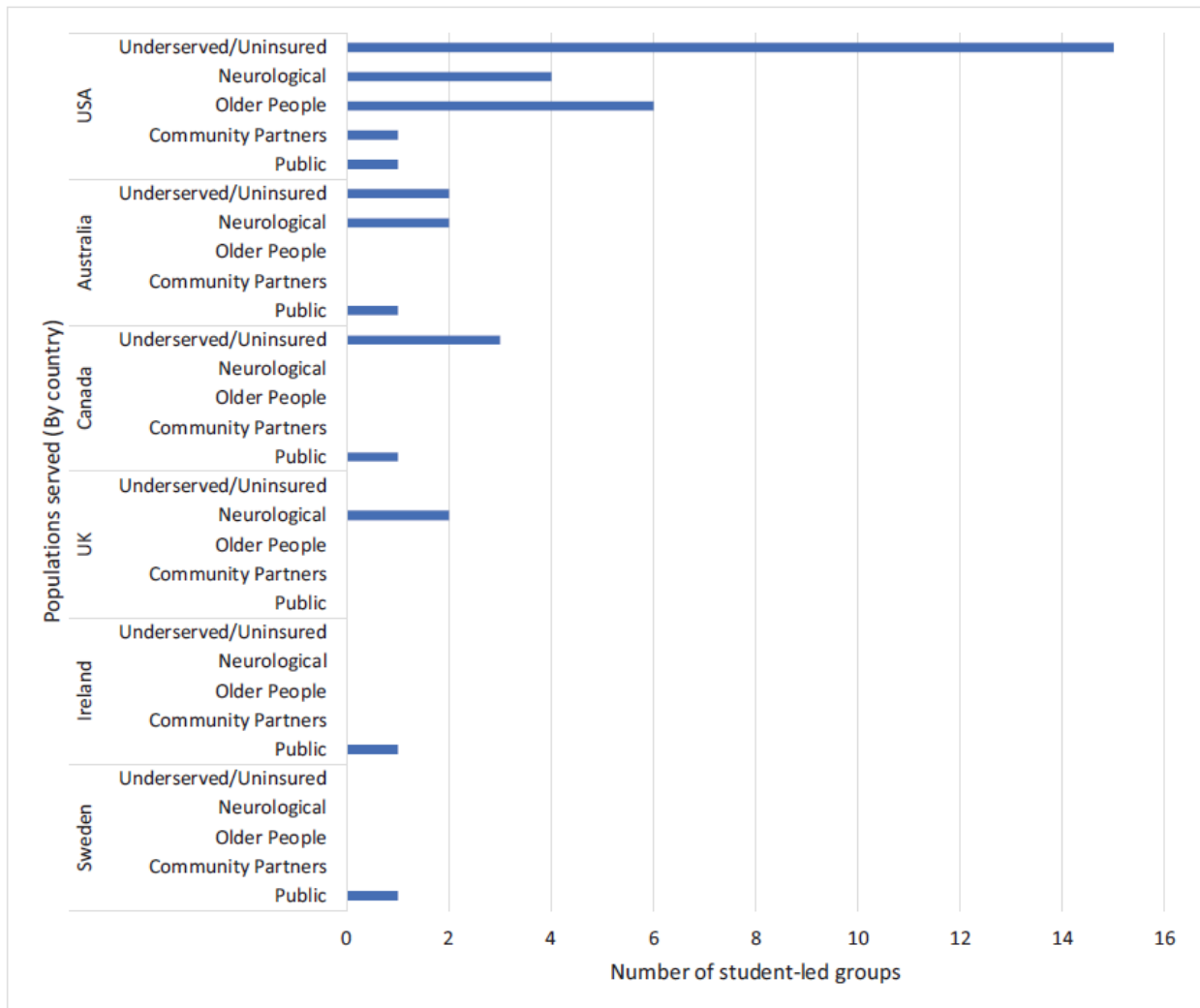
### 299 Characteristics of student-led groups and clinics<level 3 heading>

300 All groups and clinics in the review adopted a student-led model. Of these, 14 sources  
301 (29%)<sup>24,32,35,37,41-45,47,50,56,61,66</sup> featured student-led groups whereby service users undergo  
302 physical rehabilitation in a group exercise environment, either as in-patients, in community  
303 groups, or in residential homes. Thirty-one sources (65%)<sup>1,5,8,9,12.13.15,20,26,34,36,38-40,46,48,49,51-  
304 55,59,60,62-65,67-69</sup> were student-led clinics where service users attended for individual physical  
305 rehabilitation as an out-patient.

306 Not all studies noted cost to service users as part of the student-led group or clinic, but for  
307 those that did, 20 sources (42%)<sup>5,13,16,20,37-40,42,44-47,49,50,52,53,55,59,65</sup> noted they were pro bono  
308 or free at the point of use and five sources (10%)<sup>36,48,60,67,69</sup> intimated a reduced fee or  
309 “dana” donation basis for clients attending. Two articles specifically reported on the  
310 financial sustainability and cost-benefit of the student-led clinic model.<sup>16,54</sup>

311 Types of clients attending and served by student-led groups and clinics varied. Where types  
312 of clients attending groups were reported, those who were under-served or uninsured were  
313 the most frequent recipients of physical rehabilitation (n=20, 42%), with the majority of  
314 those in the USA (n=15, 31%)<sup>13,24,34,41-43,46,47,49,50,52-55</sup>, and the remainder in Canada (n=3,  
315 6%)<sup>9,12,15</sup> and Australia (n=2, 4%)<sup>16,64</sup>. Those with neurological conditions were the next most  
316 frequent participants in groups, with 17% (n=8)<sup>8,32,40,45,50,61,66,67</sup> of those service users  
317 receiving rehabilitation in these settings in three countries: the USA, Australia, and the UK.  
318 Older people received physical rehabilitation at 13% (n=6) of student-led groups that were  
319 reported in the review; however, these were only reported in the USA. Members of the

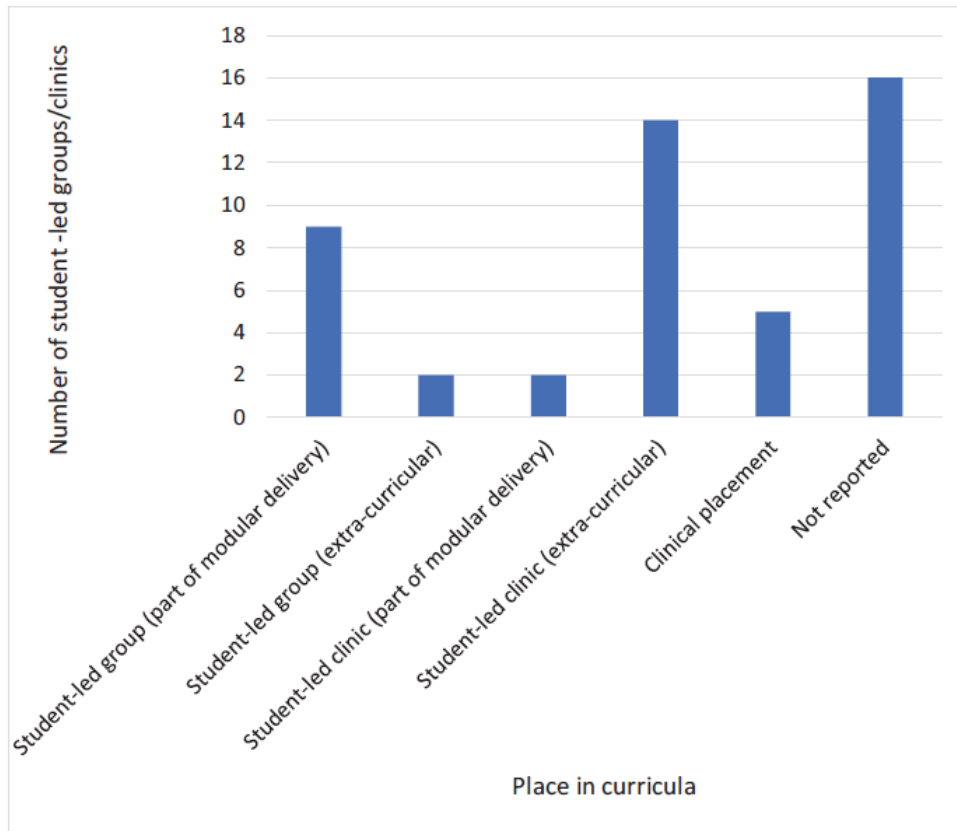
320 general public were reported as having access to physical rehabilitation at 10% (n=5) of  
 321 student-led groups across five countries, with one group in each: the USA,<sup>36</sup> Australia,<sup>8</sup>  
 322 Canada,<sup>12</sup> Ireland,<sup>20</sup> and Sweden,<sup>68</sup> but not the UK. There was also one reported instance of  
 323 community partners receiving physical rehabilitation in the USA (n=1, 2%).<sup>35</sup>



324 **Figure 4: Populations served by student-led groups and clinics (by country)**

325 The frequency and pattern of delivery of student-led groups and clinics varied, as well as  
 326 their place in the curriculum. Eleven studies (23%)<sup>8,24,32,42,44,45,47,50,56,61,65</sup> had the student-led  
 327 group or clinic as part of an academic module. Sixteen studies (33%)<sup>13,34-36,38,40,43,46,48,49,51-</sup>  
 328 <sup>55,66</sup> reported running a student-led group or clinic as a learning activity outside the  
 329 curriculum. Five studies (10%) had the student-led group or clinic as an integral and major  
 330 part of the clinical placement experience; these studies ranged across three countries;  
 331 Australia (n=2),<sup>5,60</sup> Canada (n=2),<sup>12,15</sup> and Ireland (n=1).<sup>20</sup> Of the 31 studies that described or  
 332 evaluated student-led clinics, 32% (n=10)<sup>13,35,38,45,50,51,57,59,60,65</sup> reported that students'  
 333 attendance at the clinic at the specified time in the curriculum was compulsory, and 26%  
 334 (n=8)<sup>5,40,46,48,49,52-54</sup> reported that students could volunteer at the clinic. The remaining  
 335 sources do not report this aspect. Where the commitment to clinic participation was  
 336 reported as compulsory, this varied from a minimum of three hours to a range of

337 attendances over a period of weeks, and at times across three academic stages. Three  
338 studies reported a method of peer mentoring between student participants at the clinics.



339 **Figure 5: Place in curricula where student-led groups and clinics are delivered**

339

340 Some of the included groups and clinics ran weekly and others at specified times in the year  
341 (eg, blocks of weeks or fortnightly). One study reported a student requirement to be  
342 involved in as many as 10 student-led group or clinic-based experiences over three  
343 semesters.<sup>35</sup>

344 Student roles in the groups varied. Students were responsible for a variety of roles and  
345 responsibilities and those reported mainly relate to service-user assessment and  
346 intervention. Design and delivery of treatment programs were the most frequently reported  
347 roles across the studies. Group and clinic organization were reported in a variety of  
348 manners. Where it was reported, students were, at times, noted to have specific leadership  
349 roles in the groups and clinics beyond assessment and delivery of treatment and  
350 intervention. Roles involved organization of service-user lists and organization of other  
351 students in the team, as well as administrative tasks (eg, writing reports). Seven studies  
352 (15%)<sup>5,31,52,54,58,59,64</sup> reported on the clinic or group infrastructure itself and the role of a  
353 student board, which oversees the running and development of such a group or clinic. Some  
354 student-led clinics in the USA had a specific student-led clinic committee structure  
355 responsible for overseeing the work of the clinic. These committees had variable  
356 membership but, in all cases, had student and faculty representation. This model of  
357 governance was not noted in any clinic or group outside the USA, perhaps indicating that

358 there was not a perceived need and/or the clinics or groups were not sufficiently developed  
 359 to warrant such administration or leadership.

### 360 Evaluation of student-led groups and clinics<level 3 heading>

361 A variety of evaluations have been undertaken in the studies included in this review. The  
 362 majority of studies, 67% (n=32)<sup>1,8,12,13,15,16,20,24,32,34-41,45,47-54,56,57,61,65,67,68</sup>, have evaluated  
 363 students as part of their investigation. Evaluations included exploring learning, attitudes to  
 364 service users, perceptions of skills, motivations and barriers to participation, and  
 365 understanding of other health care professionals' roles. Six studies (13%)<sup>26,34,60,62,66,68</sup>  
 366 investigated service users and these evaluations ranged from satisfaction with student-led  
 367 groups to pre- and post-physical rehabilitation outcomes. Four studies<sup>16,46,65,68</sup> evaluated  
 368 student-led groups and clinics from a clinical supervisor/faculty perspective and these  
 369 mainly focused on perceptions of the clinic and students, as well as feasibility of the  
 370 student-led group or clinic model. As previously noted, cost-benefit evaluations were the  
 371 central aims of two studies<sup>16,69</sup> in this scoping review focusing, in particular, on the financial  
 372 sustainability of providing student-led free/reduced-cost physical rehabilitation to service  
 373 users on a long-term basis.

Participants of research studies*	Focus of evaluation
Students (n = 32 studies)	Motivators and barriers to participation in student-led groups/clinics
	Perceptions of learning
	Clinical skills
	Confidence
	Professionalism
	Perceptions of service users/attitudes
	Understanding/perceptions of other healthcare professionals' roles
Service users (n = 6 studies)	Satisfaction with health care at student-led groups/clinics
	Pre- and post-physical rehabilitation outcomes
Clinical supervisors/faculty (n = 4 studies)	Perceptions of group/clinic
	Perceptions of students
	Feasibility of group/clinic
Cost benefit (n = 2 studies)	Economy sustainability of student-led group/clinic
	Cost per service user interaction

374 *\*Some studies were included in more than one participant/type of evaluation in this table.*

### 375 Table 1: Participants of research studies and focus of evaluation undertaken

376 Interviews and focus groups are the main reported measures that have been used to  
 377 evaluate student-led groups and clinics. These have been most frequently utilized to explore  
 378 perceptions of students, clinical supervisors, and service users alike. Some studies have

379 employed mixed methods approaches with the use of surveys and validated scales to  
380 establish pre- and post-group attitudes, skills and behaviors with groups of participants.

## 381 Discussion<level 1 heading>

382 This scoping review identified studies and sources that described and/or evaluated student-  
383 led physical rehabilitation for service users in either an exercise group or clinic environment  
384 in entry-level professional education curricula. Forty-eight sources were included, reporting  
385 a wide range of student-led groups and clinics in six countries. The majority of these groups  
386 were university-disciplinary and there were a range of drivers underpinning them.

387 The majority of studies in this review focused upon the student experience of student-led  
388 groups and clinics. Most of these studies were conducted on single sites and with one  
389 cohort. Although methodological quality is not commented upon, it is clear from the small  
390 studies conducted that this area of research is in its infancy. It is also clear that the  
391 objectives for student-led groups and clinics vary widely and this would appear to have a  
392 considerable influence on the structure, place in the curriculum, and types of service users  
393 that students interact with in these groups and clinics.

394 The geographical locations of the studies suggest that, although there are a number of  
395 student-led groups and clinics, the majority of these appear to be confined to the USA and  
396 Australia. Considering the studies more carefully, it is clear the drivers for student-led  
397 groups and clinics in these countries are different. Studies from the USA report utilizing  
398 student-led groups and clinics to facilitate altruism and social enterprise as encouraged by  
399 The Commission for American Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) criteria for accreditation  
400 standards.<sup>70</sup> Australia has clearly linked the development of student-led groups and clinics  
401 to assist with clinical placement provision.<sup>71</sup> Where student-led groups and clinics are  
402 introduced earlier in curricula, there is a clear association with the objective to develop  
403 clinical skills through service-user interaction prior to more in-depth immersion in clinical  
404 practice. These also tend to evaluate the skills-based outcomes of such interventions. This  
405 also seems to be the case more frequently where students only have clinical placement  
406 experiences towards the end of their programs of study. Increasingly, the drivers for  
407 student-led groups and clinics and student-led service delivery models are becoming more  
408 prevalent across all health sectors with a clearly identified need to build capacity for  
409 students and service users alike.<sup>72</sup>

410 Where student-led groups and clinics are more established in curricula, there is often a  
411 leadership element to learning, where students may be responsible for not only clinical  
412 interactions, but also organizational aspects of service delivery and/or peer-assisted  
413 learning. This may also include some form of board-level role with an overarching  
414 responsibility for the running of the group or clinic. Whilst it is outside the scope of this  
415 review to comment on the quality of research outcomes in this area, early indications are  
416 that students favor these experiences.



417 The sustainability of the student-led groups was commented upon in some studies with  
418 varied outcomes. Various measures of sustainability were utilized, including staff resource  
419 and time, as well as cost-benefit analyses. There is a clear desire in some sectors to expand  
420 the provision of student-led groups in order to enhance the student experience<sup>1</sup> and bridge  
421 gaps in placement provision<sup>60,72</sup>; however, it is clear that the drivers for implementation and  
422 the type of model adopted may influence the overall sustainability of the model.

423 The varied models of health-service delivery are a key factor in the evaluation of student-led  
424 groups and clinics and it is clear that where public models of delivery exist, there are fewer  
425 reported models of student-led rehabilitation. However, it could conceivably be the case  
426 that these are part of entry-level curricula but are just not documented or investigated as  
427 such. There are calls from the education community that these models could form a  
428 sustainable method of building placement capacity in the future,<sup>72</sup> and therefore further  
429 evaluation of such models is warranted.

### 430 **Limitations<level 2 heading>**

431 This review's search may not have been exhaustive due to the date range settings selected  
432 and language restrictions. This may be especially the case for a practice that exists in global  
433 entry-level health education and curricula. Although the included studies were in English,  
434 there may have been studies published in Asian, African, or European languages that may  
435 have warranted inclusion. This is a recognized possible limiting factor of the review. As this  
436 was a scoping review, no rating of the quality of evidence was performed and therefore the  
437 outcomes of studies are not reported.

### 438 **Conclusions<level 1 heading>**

439 The aim of this review was to identify, map, and describe the characteristics of student-led  
440 physical rehabilitation groups and clinics in entry-level health care curricula across the  
441 globe. It is clear that these clinics and groups are at very different stages of development  
442 and use within the curricula in different countries and, whilst some areas, such as the USA,  
443 have very well-developed systems in place for such groups and clinics, other areas, such as  
444 the UK and Ireland, are in their infancy in developing this teaching and learning approach.  
445 Moreover, the objectives and drivers for groups and clinics vary immensely worldwide, from  
446 development of altruism to satisfying a clinical placement need, and therefore the evolution  
447 of models of groups and clinics have driven a wide and varied number of models globally.

### 448 **Implications for research<level 2 heading>**

449 Given the relative infancy of this area of practice and the literature in this field, it clear that  
450 further research needs to be undertaken. Much of the literature and research in existence is  
451 of a case study nature or "action research" focus, not unusual in educational research.  
452 However, to further understand the impact of student-led groups and clinics on students,  
453 faculty, and service users' experiences, it is important that further research is undertaken.  
454 This should include further evaluation of student experiences in relation to specific stages of



455 the curriculum. Exploration of faculty members' experiences should consider the training  
456 required and explore the facilitation of learning, as well as further establishing the  
457 sustainability of student-led groups from a resource and cost perspective. In addition,  
458 further use of validated measures would allow for a deeper understanding of whether  
459 student-led groups and clinics have any impact on development of skills and/or clinical  
460 reasoning practices. Due to the small sample sizes of the studies to date, it would be difficult  
461 to derive firm conclusions about the impact of student-led groups and clinics on students or  
462 service users. Further work is required to evaluate outcomes for service users as well as  
463 further exploration of perceived satisfaction. It would also be of value to explore barriers  
464 and motivators for service users to attend such initiatives. It is recognized that  
465 disaggregating aspects of curriculum design and practice can be challenging; however, there  
466 is a need to further understand the impact of student-led groups and clinics on entry-level  
467 education, and where and for whom they may be of most benefit.

## 468 Implications for practice<level 2 heading>

469 Student-led groups and clinics in physical rehabilitation, where established, appear to be  
470 firmly embedded in curricula and aspects such as governance, structure, and content, as  
471 well as sustainability. However, as student-led groups and clinics are in their infancy, these  
472 are all areas that require further evaluation. Evaluating student learning and establishing  
473 the optimal places in curricula are key areas for development. Where student-led groups  
474 and clinics are part of clinical placement experiences, these aspects appear already  
475 embedded. However, understanding supervision models and further evaluation of the  
476 interprofessional experience would be of benefit, as would evaluating peer-assisted learning  
477 models in a student-led environment.

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Database (and platform)*	Search strategy	Records retrieved
MEDLINE (EBSCO)	<p>#1 MH "student run clinic OR "student led" OR "service learning" OR student group* OR student clinic*</p> <p>#2 MH "health occupations" OR health professions* OR (physiotherap# or physical therap#) OR (occupational therap' or ot) OR sports therap*</p> <p>#1 &amp; #2</p> <p>Limits applied: Dates: 01/01/1998-01/11/2019; English. Search mode: Boolean/Phrase.</p>	171
CINAHL (EBSCO)	<p>#1 MH "Service Learning") OR "student-led clinic" OR "student run clinic"</p> <p>#2 (MH "Health Occupations") OR physiotherap# or physical therap# or rehabilitation or exercise) OR occupational therap* OR sports therap*</p> <p>#1 &amp; #2</p> <p>Limits applied: Dates: 01/01/1998-01/11/2019; English. Search mode: Boolean/Phrase.</p>	220
AMED (EBSCO)	<p>#1 "student run" OR "Student-led" or "service learning"</p> <p>#2 "health professions" or health occupations OR [physiotherap# or physical therap#] OR [occupational therap' or ot] OR Sports therap*</p> <p>#1 &amp; #2</p> <p>Limits applied: Dates: 01/01/1998-01/11/2019; English.</p>	88
ERIC (EBSCO)	<p>#1 "student led" OR "student run" OR "service learning"</p> <p>#2 health professional students* OR (physiotherapy or physical therapy or rehabilitation) OR (occupational therapy or occupational therapist or ot) OR Sport therapy OR "interprofessional"</p> <p>#1 &amp; #2</p>	41



	Limits applied: Dates: 01/01/1998-01/11/2019; English. Search mode: Boolean/Phrase.	
Scopus	#1 TITLE-ABS-KEY ("student led" * OR "student run" * OR "service learning" * )  Limits applied: Dates: 01/01/1998- 01/11/2019; English.	39
SPORTDiscus (EBSCO)	#1 "student led" OR student run* OR service learning #2 health professionals* OR physiotherap* OR occupational therap* OR Sport therap* #1 & #2  Limits applied: Dates: 01/01/1998-01/11/2019; English.	49

670 \*There were also 7 gray literature sources, which were retrieved from the following  
671 databases: Open Access Theses and Dissertations (OATD); EBSCO Open Dissertations;  
672 ProQuest Dissertations and Theses; and Google Scholar.

## Appendix II: Studies ineligible following full-text review<level 1 heading>

Title	Reason for exclusion
Asand K, Zheng J, Chan-Golston A, Tam E, Bhetraratana M, Lan C, et al. Assessing quality of care through client satisfaction at an interprofessional student-run free clinic. <i>J Interprof Care</i> . 2018;32(2):203-10.	No physical rehabilitation element.
Atler K, Gavin WJ. Service-learning-based instruction enhances students' perceptions of their abilities to engage in evidence-based practice. <i>Occup Ther Health Care</i> . 2010b;24(1):23-38.	Not student-led.
Battle K, Deverix B, Durham D, Strydom E. Learning everyday: genesis rehab services' student program. <i>OT Pract</i> . 2008;13(10):10-14.	Not student-led.
Bird Y, Islam A, Moraros J. Community-based clinic volunteering: an evaluation of the direct and indirect effects on the experience of health science college students. <i>BMC Med Educ</i> . 2016;16: 21.	Not student-led.
Bresnahan JM. In the clinic. Tri-leadership: learning as a group within a group. <i>OT Pract</i> . 2010;15(20):17-19.	No physical rehabilitation element.
Bridges DR, Abel MS, Carlson J, Tomkowiak J. 2010. Service learning in interprofessional education: a case study. <i>J Phys Ther Educ</i> . 2010;24(1):44-50.	Not student-led.
Chevan J, Reinking M, Iversen MD. The early assurance program model for physical therapy education. <i>J Phys Ther Educ Education</i> . 2017;31(3):15-23.	Public health and not physical rehabilitation.
Chung C, Di Loreto L, Manga J, Wong J. Student-led interprofessional education revolution: developing the 'Diamond Approach'. <i>J Interprof Care</i> . 2009;23(6):630-2.	No student-led group.

Farlow JL, Goodwin C, Sevilla J. Interprofessional education through service-learning: lessons from a student-led free clinic. <i>J Interprof Care</i> . 2015;29(3):263-4.	Group not student-led.
Galantino ML. Multifaceted aspects of assessment in service learning: lessons learned. <i>J Phys Ther Educ</i> . 2006;20(3):49-54.	Diagnostic and not physical rehabilitation.
Greene D. Student perceptions of aging and disability as influenced by service learning. <i>Phys Occup Ther Geriatr</i> . 1998;15(3):39-55.	No physical rehabilitation element.
Gustafsson L, Brown T, McKinstry C, Caine A. Practice education: a snapshot from Australian university programmes. <i>Austral Occup Ther J</i> . 2017;64(2):159-69.	No ongoing physical intervention. Assessment only.
Haggarty D, Dalcin D. Student-run clinics in Canada: an innovative method of delivering interprofessional education. <i>J Interprof Care</i> . 2014;28(6):570-2.	Public health and no physical rehabilitation element.
Hastings J, Zulman D, Walji S. UCLA mobile clinic project. <i>J Health Care Poor Underserved</i> . 2007;18(4):744-8.	No physical rehabilitation element.
Hayward LM, Meleis W, Mahanna J, Ventura SH. Interprofessional collaboration among physical therapy, speech-language pathology, and engineering faculty and students to address global pediatric rehabilitation needs: a case report. <i>J Phys Ther Educ</i> . 2016;30(4):24-34.	No physical rehabilitation element.
Heiselt AK, Tyson G. Rehabilitation counselling and service learning: exploring new partnerships. <i>J Appl Rehabil Couns</i> . 2011;42(3):26-31.	Does not address review objectives.
Hoppes S, Bender D, Degrace BW. Service learning is a perfect fit for occupational and physical therapy education. <i>J Allied Health</i> . 2014;34(1):47-50.	Counseling rather than review objectives.
Horowitz BP, Wong SD, Dechello K. Intergenerational service learning: to promote active aging, and occupational therapy gerontology practice. <i>Geront Geriatr Educ</i> . 2010;31(1):75-91.	Not student-led.

Housely C.L, Neill KK, White LS, Tedder AT, Castleberry AN. An evaluation of an interprofessional practice-based learning environment using student reflections. J Interprof Care. 2018;32(1):108-10.	Not student-led.
Hu T, Leung F. An evaluation of wait-times at an interprofessional student-run free clinic. J Interprof Care. 2016;30(4):532-5.	Medical intervention and no physical rehabilitation element.
Jackson L, Pickens N. Service learning in fall prevention at TWU-Dallas. OT Practice. 2013;18(16):16-17.	No physical rehabilitation element.
Kent F, Drysdale P, Martin N, Keating JL. The mixed-discipline aged-care student clinic: an authentic interprofessional learning initiative. J Allied Health. 2014;43(1):51-6.	Not student-led.
Kent F, Keating J. Patient outcomes from a student-led interprofessional clinic in primary care. J Interprof Care. 2013;27(4):336-8.	Assessment only. No physical rehabilitation.
Kent F, Keating J. Interprofessional education in primary health care for entry-level students--a systematic literature review. Nurse Educ Today. 2015;35(12):1221-31.	Assessment only. No physical rehabilitation.
Kent F, Lai F, Beovich B, Dodic M. Interprofessional student teams augmenting service provision in residential aged care. Australas J Ageing. 2016;35(3):204-9.	Systematic review. Does not answer review objectives.
Kent F, Martin N, Keating JL. Interprofessional student-led clinics: an innovative approach to the support of older people in the community. J Interprof Care. 2016;30(1):123-8.	No physical rehabilitation element.
Koski J, Smith Y. Non-traditional fieldwork: challenges and opportunities. OT Practice. 2012;17(1):8-18.	Screening and assessment only. No physical rehabilitation element.
Krause MW. Service learning in physiotherapy taken to a new level: experiences in South Africa. Phy Ther Rev. 2007;12(4):277-84.	Not student-led.
Krout JA, Bergman E, Bianconi P, Caldwell K, Dorsey J, Durnford S, et al. Intergenerational service learning with elders:	Not student-led.

multidisciplinary activities and outcomes. <i>Geront Geriatr Educ.</i> 2010;31(1):55-74.	
Lahav O, Daniely N, Yalon-Chamovitz S. Interpersonal social responsibility model of service learning: a longitudinal study. <i>Scandinavian J Occup Ther.</i> 2018;25(1):61-9.	Not student-led.
Lie D, Forest CP, Walsh A, Banzali Y, Lohenry K. What and how do students learn in an interprofessional student-run clinic? An educational framework for team-based care. <i>Med Educ Online.</i> 2016;21(1):31900.	No physical rehabilitation element.
Lloyd C, Williams PL, Machingura T. A process for developing a student-led programme in an acute mental health setting. <i>N Z J Occup Ther.</i> 2015;62(2):67-70.	No physical rehabilitation element.
Maloney SM, Griffith K. Occupational therapy students' development of therapeutic communication skills during a service-learning experience. <i>Occup Ther in Ment Health.</i> 2013;29(1):10-26.	Not clear any physical rehabilitation occurring. No description of this.
Mareck DG, Uden DL, Larson TA, Shepard MF, Reinhert RJ. Rural interprofessional service-learning: the Minnesota experience. <i>Acad Med.</i> 2004;79(7):672-6.	Not student-led. No physical rehabilitation element.
McMenamin R, McGrath M, D'Eath M. Impacts of service learning on Irish healthcare students, educators, and communities. <i>Nurs Health Sci.</i> 2010;12(4):499-506.	No physical rehabilitation.
Michaels MB. Service learning: advocating for reduction of falls risks in the elderly. <i>J Phys Ther Educ.</i> 2015;20(3):64-6.	Not student-led.
Moskowitz D, Glasco J, Johnson B, Wang G. Students in the community: an interprofessional student-run free clinic. <i>J Interprof Care.</i> 2006;20(3):254-59.	Not clear any physical rehabilitation occurring. No description of this.
Neill M, Hayward KS, Peterson T. Students' perceptions of the interprofessional team in practice through the application of servant leadership principles. <i>J Interprof Care.</i> 2007;21(4):425-32.	Assessment only and no physical rehabilitation element.
Nowakowski KA. A clinical service learning program promotes mastery of essential competencies in geriatric physical therapy. <i>J Phys Ther Educ.</i> 2014;28(2):46-53.	No physical rehabilitation.

Olivier M, Oostuthien L, Casleleijn D. Occupational therapy students' contribution towards enabling potential in a semi-rural community. <i>Work</i> . 2007;29(1):63-8.	Not clear any physical rehabilitation occurring. No description of this.
Ovans H, Lacey E, Bowes W, Winwood K. University of Worcester Occupational Therapy (OT) Student-led Clinic – Review of Student Learning...RCOT (Royal College of Occupational Therapist) Annual Conference 2017. <i>Br J Occup Ther</i> . 2017;80(8):115.	Student-led groups not a focus of this paper.
Palombaro KM, Lattanzi JB, Dole RL. Creating sustainable community engagement initiatives in a graduate physical therapy program. <i>Metrop Univ</i> . 2010;20(3):61-76.	Model unclear. No evidence of physical rehabilitation.
Reynolds PJ. How service learning experiences benefit physical therapy students professional development: a grounded theory study. <i>J Phys Ther Educ</i> . 2005;19(1):41-54.	Not student-led.
Roskell C. Developing patient centred care in health professionals: reflections on introducing service-learning into the curriculum. <i>Int J Ther Rehab</i> . 2012;19(8):448-56.	No physical rehabilitation element. Not student-led.
Rudd AB, Moore-Nadler M, Clanton C. Nurse-managed clinic paves the way for an interprofessional student-run free clinic. <i>Alabama Nurs</i> . 2016;43(3):8-9.	Not student-led.
Rudman SV. University-community partnerships for health. A model interdisciplinary service-learning project. <i>J Phys Ther Educ</i> . 1999;28(2):109-12.	Not student-led.
Rukavina PB, Li, W, Shen B, Sun H. A service-learning based project to change implicit and explicit bias toward obese individuals in kinesiology pre-professionals. <i>Obes Facts</i> . 2010;3(2):117-26.	No physical rehabilitation element.
Scoggin A, Ruelas J, Wells S, Gonzales O, Hodge S, Delgado D, et al. Operation Lone Star. <i>OT Pract</i> . 2014;19(19):14-16.	No physical rehabilitation element.
Scott AH. Wellness works: community service health promotion groups led by occupational therapy students. <i>Am J Occup Ther</i> . 1999;53(6):566-74.	Not student-led.

Scott EA, Swartz MK. Interprofessional student experiences on the HAVEN free clinic leadership board. J Interprof Care. 2015;29(1):68-70.	Not student-led.
Smallfield S. Using service learning to teach office ergonomics. Educ Special Int Sect Q. 2011;21(1) 3-4.	No physical rehabilitation element.
Smith SN, Crocker AF. Experiential learning in physical therapy education. Adv Med Educ Pract. 2017;8:427-33.	No physical rehabilitation element.
Stemmons Mercer V, Zimmerman MY, Schrodt LA, Palmer WE, Samuels V. Interprofessional education in a rural community-based falls prevention project: the CHAMP experience. J Phys Ther Educ. 2014;28(2):35-45.	Not student-led.
Thomas KJ, Reigart EB, Trickey BA. An interdisciplinary service learning experience in geriatrics for occupational and physical therapy students. Geront Geriatr Educ. 1998;19(2):81-9.	No physical rehabilitation element.
Vanderweilen LM, Enurah AS, Osburn IF, Lacoce KN, Vanderbilt AA. The development of student-led interprofessional education and collaboration. J Interprof Care. 2013;27(5):422-3.	Not student-led.
Vansickle JL, Schaumleffel NA. Putting partnerships on paper: creating service engagement opportunities in kinesiology and recreation. JOPERD: J Phys Ed Recreat Dance. 2015;86(4):24-33.	Not student-led.
Village D. Service learning in geriatric physical therapist education. J Phys Ther Educ. 2001;15(2):42-5.	Not student-led.
Village D. Research report: comparison of the use of service learning, volunteer and pro bono activities in physical therapy curricula. J Phys Ther Educ. 2004;18(1):22-8.	No physical rehabilitation element.
Village D. Qualities of effective service learning. J Phys Ther Educ. 2006;20(3):8-17.	Not student-led. Does not meet review objectives.

<p>Vroman K, Simmons CD, Knight J. Service learning can make occupation-based practice a reality: a single case study. <i>Occup Ther Health Care</i>. 2010;24(3):249-65.</p>	<p>Not student-led.</p>
<p>Wang T, Bhakta H. A new model for interprofessional collaboration at a student-run free clinic. <i>J Interprof Care</i>. 2013;27(4):339-40.</p>	<p>Assessment/screening only. No physical rehabilitation element.</p>
<p>Withey MB, Breault A. A home healthcare and school of pharmacy partnership to reduce falls. <i>Home Healthc Nurse</i>. 2013;31(6):295-302.</p>	<p>Pharmacy only. No physical rehabilitation element.</p>
<p>Yonkman J, Kossman M, Thomas K. Cultivating independence through service learning projects. <i>OT Pract</i>. 2016;21(2):8-11.</p>	<p>Not student-led.</p>



## Appendix III: Characteristics of included studies&lt;level 1 heading&gt;

Author (year) Country	Study design	Participants	Aims/objectives	Characteristics of group/clinic	Evaluation of group/clinic
Atler <i>et al.</i> <sup>32</sup> (2010) USA	Mixed methods	43 Year two OT students.	To what degree do students' perceptions of abilities in applying OT process change after SL?  What are the most salient characteristics of experience reported by students?	OT students participated in SL with a neurological population.  Integrated within module.  Assigned in pairs to work with an individual with neurological impairment. Six visits over 16 weeks. Assessment and intervention plan designed and conducted by students.	Pre-survey to identify knowledge; post survey to evaluate knowledge  Personal reflective essay.  Analysis demonstrated a possible increase in student perceptions of knowledge, skills and confidence, to varying levels. Perceptual change only not actual change.
Beling <sup>33</sup> (2003) USA	Experimental SL and control group.  Random assignment to groups.	40 PT students enrolled on geriatric rehabilitation course. Last semester of 3-year graduate PT program.	Null hypotheses:  i. Graduate PT students' knowledge, misconceptions, and bias regarding aging will be unchanged following a service-learning experience in a geriatric rehabilitation course.	SL course of 32 hours of community service. Groups of 4 students completed a needs assessment and developed a program.  Control group did in-class activities.	Standardized knowledge test about aging.  Student evaluations of faculty.

			ii. Graduate students' faculty teaching evaluations will be unaffected by SL.		<p>Significant increase in experimental groups pre- and post-scores.</p> <p>Students in the SL group did not evaluate the faculty favorably as saw the SL as much more work.</p>
Black <i>et al.</i> <sup>1</sup> (2013) USA	<p>Descriptive</p> <p>Interviews within 1 year of clinic launch.</p>	18 inaugural members of Chester community PT clinical student board.	<p>Describe the inaugural student board members' experiences in creating and launching the student-led, pro bono physical therapy clinic.</p> <p>To determine its usefulness and sustainability for meeting CAPTE and program missions.</p>	Unclear	<p>Qualitative content analysis of semi-structured interviews.</p> <p>Key themes related to being on the board: commitment; increased competence (clinical and administrative); leadership (communication and collaboration); and perspective.</p>
Black <i>et al.</i> <sup>34</sup> (2017) USA	Unclear	DPT students, clinic supervisors, service users.	Describe the implementation and assessment of grand rounds as a means of providing continuity of care and learning experience for students in a SLC.	Clinic open 4 nights per week. Students from across 3 years of DPT take turns serving clinic. Always supervised by a state-registered physical therapist. Students participate according to their level of experience;	<p>Qualitative interviews of clinic supervisors, students' reflections and service users' satisfaction surveys.</p> <p>General feeling that grand rounds increased</p>

			<p>Prior to grand rounds, students noted being unprepared and clients noted they rarely saw the same student DPT twice.</p>	<p>more senior students provide mentorship. All students participate in documentation. Participation is organized in a rotation system according to when cohorts are in.</p> <p>6-10 clients per evening are seen.</p>	<p>confidence and consistency.</p>
<p>Bostick <i>et al.</i><sup>15</sup> (2014) Canada</p>	<p>Descriptive qualitative study</p>	<p>Convenience sampling n =13. Pharmacy, kinesiology and PT students.</p>	<p>Describe novel clinical learning experiences in an SLC from a student perspective.</p> <p>To try to ascertain the extent of different between SLCs and placement.</p>	<p>Established to address placement shortage by providing high-quality experience and address unmet physical rehabilitation needs within the community.</p> <p>Staffed by a 0.8 FTE PT and 0.2 physical therapy assistant.</p> <p>All students had administrative and housekeeping studies but primarily responsible for directing patient care. Student were encouraged to direct and monitor exercise programs.</p>	<p>Focus group discussion. Also, a survey determined difference between placement and SLC administered.</p> <p>6 students participated in the focus group.</p> <p>Main themes; managing gap between classroom and real world; SLC was a means to do this. Students noted it was more responsibility than on placement. Instructors supervising did not carry own caseloads therefore could provide appropriate support.</p>

				Pharmacy had communication role.	Facilitated ownership by students Safety in learning.
Brosky <sup>35</sup> (2006) USA	Survey	Survey of 75 PT students and 24 local community groups.	PT student perceptions and community partners' perceptions	A variety of student-led initiatives with a range of community partners. Students must complete 5-10 experiences across 3 semesters.	PT students and service users alike reported a positive experience, valuable partnerships, and benefit from the experience.
Buckley <i>et al.</i> <sup>5</sup> (2014) Australia	Descriptive study of initiation of REACH project	Medicine/PT/nursing and social work students.	Confirm feasibility of a 4 week IPL outreach clinic.	Service model of volunteers from each profession. 4 weeks long, 1-5pm daily. Student committee established to run and develop the clinic.	Discussed feasibility of the project: need to balance competing demands of IPL screening vs uni-professional roles. Issues with continuity of care between students. Generally positive experience from service users.
Cassidy and Yorke <sup>40</sup> (2019) USA	Mixed methods study	119 Year 1 and 2 student physical therapists.	Investigate motivators, barriers and facilitators to volunteering as a PT student at a student-run free clinic.	Clinic is run one day per week for 2 hours. Students are not mandated to volunteer; it is entirely optional. Services are provided mainly to clients with neurological conditions.	Top motivators were to practice treatment techniques and improve assessment skills.  Top barrier was clinic hours and time constraints.

Crandell <i>et al.</i> <sup>36</sup> (2013) USA	Case report	8 DPT students.	Aim to understand development of professionalism via interviews, Core Values Self-Assessment form and analysis of student reflection.	SLC, which provides off-campus services to staff, students and members of community. Unclear whether students are assigned or volunteer and how many hours this is. 1 <sup>st</sup> - and 2 <sup>nd</sup> -year DPT students get this experience.	Suggests professionalism is developed more in the SLC than in other areas of the curriculum.
Flinn <i>et al.</i> <sup>37</sup> (2009) USA	Descriptive paper	OT and PT students.	Describe development of IPL SL course and evaluate impact on health professions students.	4 x 2-hour student-led sessions in the community with OT and PT students.	Outcomes noted that students' cognitive skills, ability to work with a diverse population, beliefs and opinions of SL, and appreciation of other disciplines were all enhanced by the class.
Forbes <sup>60</sup> (2020) Australia	Qualitative study	18 patients who attended 3 different university student-led PT clinics.	Exploration of service dissatisfaction with PT SLC.	Students attend a 1 x 5-week compulsory block at the SLC. Students are responsible for assessing, diagnosing, and managing patient care. Fee-paying system at approximate rate of 50% of standard services. Students have 1-hour consultations.	Continuity of care was raised as an issue in SLC. The additional time commitment to attend was a barrier for some patients. Some patients noted loss of autonomy when being treated by a student.

Forbes and Nolan <sup>26</sup> (2018) Australia	Cross-sectional qualitative study	20 patients who attended student-led PT clinics.	Explore patient satisfaction at student-led PT clinics.	Unknown.	Themes such as supervision style, communication, and quality of PT care all have a significant influence on patient perceptions. Some suggestions are made for the future provision of such a clinic to ensure a quality experience for patients.
Froberg <i>et al.</i> <sup>68</sup> (2018) Sweden	Mixed methods evaluation	SRC with medical, PT, nursing, OT, and psychology students.	To explore perceptions of the SRC by students, supervisors, and patients.	SRC provides care and rehabilitation for over 30,000 inhabitants of Stockholm county. IPL environment for learning. Length of placement varies from 1 week for medical students to 13 weeks for psychology. All students are more than halfway through training.	Most student respondents were very satisfied with learning and supervision at the clinic and high patient satisfaction was reported. A significant amount of time was required by supervisors to run the clinic and ensure balance of supervision and autonomy for students.
George <i>et al.</i> <sup>38</sup> (2017) USA	Implementation report	Pro bono PT clinic.	Aim to describe the implementation of the PT clinic to allow transparency and accessibility for others to set up.	Clinic has leadership roles for PT students. Describes start-up costs. Compulsory for year 1 and 3 students; year 3 students peer mentor year 1 students.	Learning opportunities are highlighted: clinical competency, professional values, civic engagement, collaborative practice,

					peer mentorship, and leadership development.
Godoshian and Yorke <sup>39</sup> (2019) USA	Survey	85 Qualified PTs who had participated in Student-run free clinics as students	Identify if participation in student-run free clinics correlates with high values of altruism, social responsibility, and cultural competency.	Various formats, as study was retrospective.	Significant correlation found between those attending SRC and altruism, however this was not linked to provision of pro bono services or to the under-served as a practising PT.
Gustaffsson <i>et al.</i> <sup>8</sup> (2016) Australia	Mixed methods study short report	SLC students; PT, OT, and speech pathology.	Evaluate IPL students' experiences of a SLC for those with neurological conditions.	5-week IPL student clinic for clients who had no other access to service. Clients attended once weekly for 5 weeks. IPL team assessment and treatment.	Increased understanding of student's awareness of each others' professions. Increased confidence of own role. Students had mixed opinions on when the optimal timing of the clinic would be in their clinical training.
Hamel <sup>43</sup> (2001) USA	Narrative report	PT and OT student-led sessions providing pro bono rehabilitation to elders.	To provide a narrative to consider SL as an option for learning and service delivery for those in need.	Does not describe.	Narrative account of the benefits to OT and PT students who were part of the service. Decision-making and empathy were two aspects that emerged.
Hu <i>et al.</i> <sup>41</sup> (2018)	Research report	Pharmacy, social work, PT, nursing, and medical	Evaluate learning experiences and skills	Free service for those who are under-insured	Understanding of different population

Canada		students running a SLC for under-served community.	developed among IPL health care students at a SLC for marginalized populations.	or on low incomes. Clinic runs every Saturday all-year-round and is staffed by students and supervisors from PT, social work, pharmacy, medicine, and nursing.	needs and IPL working. Provides a viable and sustainable means of providing a learning opportunity as well as service to the community.
Maritz <sup>42</sup> (2008) USA	Descriptive report	PT students led exercise group with frail elders, assisted by a DCP.	Aim to describe the development and implementation of the student-led group-based exercise model for frail elders.	Development of a seated exercise program for frail elders (by student PTs). Implementation of the program was 4 times weekly. Student leaders ran alternate days.	Reports on the positive sustainability of the program as it was designed and led by PT student but then handed over to DCPs.
Marken <i>et al.</i> <sup>43</sup> (2011) USA	Descriptive report	OT students in service-learning project with elders.	Develop and implement student-led rehabilitation sessions with elders.	Independent student-led sessions.	Does not specify.
Matthews <i>et al.</i> <sup>44</sup> (2012) USA	Research report	IPL, student-led collaboration with nursing, PT, and social work students and elders.	Does not specify.	Describes the 10-week intervention program, PT and nursing students are paired up and complete assessment and rehabilitation interventions.	Does not specify.
Ng and Hu <sup>9</sup> (2017) Canada	SRFC providers in Canada	SRFC providers in Canada.	Exploration of Canada IPL SRFCs.	No data.	Key differences from other countries (eg, US). Canada clinics offer more chronic disease



					management/rehabilitation and health maintenance.
Nicole <i>et al.</i> <sup>16</sup> (2015) Australia	Mixed methods evaluation	Student physiotherapists and clinical educators.	Explores perceived barriers and enablers to setting up SLS to increase placement capacity.	No details.	Barriers to SLS were: poor support or experience of clinical educator and perceived patient risk. Enablers included additional student responsibility, encouraging work readiness, and no set-up costs.
Nordon-Craft <i>et al.</i> <sup>45</sup> (2017) USA	Evaluation	80 1st-year DPT students.	Investigate SL of PT student attitudes and perceived clinical competence working with older adults.	Students delivered 5 supervised hours with older adults over 5 weeks. Compulsory SL activity.	Self-perceived improvement in clinical competence with elders post activity.
O'Connor <sup>20</sup> (2018) Ireland	Qualitative descriptive study	7 undergraduate PT students.	Exploration of challenges and facilitators of a community-based, student-led placement.	5 week student-led placement undertaken by 4 final-year PT students.	Students reported acquisition of professional skills, such as leadership and teamwork. Challenges of the model included the lack of a bespoke assessment process.  Determined as a feasible model.

Ohio University <sup>59</sup> (2019) USA	Webpage	SL for PT students.	Pro bono, student-led PT service for under-insured.	All 1st- and 2nd-year DPT students must complete the minimum SL requirements, which include signing up for the SL group and meeting to establish group goals. In addition, a minimum of 15 hours direct patient contact per year are required at two clinics per week ( afternoons 2pm to 4pm).	No outcomes reported.
Palombaro <i>et al.</i> <sup>46</sup> (2011) USA	Case report	DPT program students and staff.	Describe creation and implementation of student-led, pro bono physical therapy clinic.	Clinic is open 3 evenings a week. Clinic has a student board established. Volunteer students get recognition for the hours they have done.	The model of SLC is feasible and sustainable. It has all 8 steps to successful community engagement.
Passmore <i>et al.</i> <sup>65</sup> (2016) Canada	Qualitative study	7 PT students and 8 clinical supervisors who volunteered at an IPL clinic.	Explored perceived benefits of the PT student experience in an IPL clinic.	Once weekly drop-in clinic providing free health care. Includes PT, OT, pharmacy, social work, medicine, and nursing students.  Students attend for 3 consecutive weeks and	Three themes identified; exposure to marginalized patient populations, learning through interprofessional interactions, and experience with different patient care approaches.

				then attend a 3-hour follow-up session.	
Patterson <i>et al.</i> <sup>61</sup> (2017) Australia	Qualitative study	15 OT students.	Aim to investigate student experiences and perceptions of student-led groups program model of education at a brain injury unit.	10-week duration in groups of 2 or 3 where students led the design and delivery of rehabilitation to clients within the unit. Some leadership tasks were also allocated.	Good balance of support and freedom for students and development of clinical skills. Some missed learning opportunities were identified due to more time spent with patients and less time observing.
Pearlman and Wallingford <sup>47</sup> (2003) USA	Evaluation	OT students.	Explore student and residents' outcomes related to the student-led wellness program for elders.	8 week intervention: each student led a different group daily as well as an individual session with residents daily.	Students noted improved observational skills, understanding of client needs, and enhanced interviewing skills.
Pennisula Health <sup>62</sup> (2012) Australia	Project report	IPL students: Dietetics, PT, OT, podiatry, social work, and speech therapy.	Report on creating and running an IPL SLC.	N/A	Feasible alternative for clinical placement.  Patients reported that teams provided a useful service.  For older patients, a student clinic should not run after hours.

Pro Bono Physical Therapy Services Project Committee <sup>58</sup> (2013) USA	Help guide	PT students and faculty.	Document to assist with creating and running a student-run, pro bono physical therapy clinic.	Step-by-step guide to setting up a clinic within the US.	No outcomes reported.
Rayson <i>et al.</i> <sup>48</sup> (2016) USA	Descriptive report	Chester Community PT clinic.	Description of growth and sustainability of a free-standing, PT student-led clinic.	Now open 4 nights per week; initially was 2. Students are all volunteers, but all students must complete a minimum of 3 nights per semester. Clinic is operated on a dana (donation) basis for clients.	Evolution of the model has allowed for sustained growth and expansion of the model. Student and clinic board is essential to this success.
Rogers <i>et al.</i> <sup>549</sup> (2017) USA	Narrative report	OT students from 3 state universities in Arizona state. Student-led clinics are interprofessional and include PT, OT, medicine, and nursing students.	Identify challenges and barriers for PT students participating in an IPL SLC.	Large clinic that is shared by 3 universities. 6 student-led committees are responsible for running and leading the clinic. Students volunteer at the clinic and are overseen by licensed professionals.	OTs are afforded the chance to adopt a generalist approach and also see patients early in their training.  There have been limited OT preceptors so this has limited the number of students who can volunteer.
Roper and Santiago <sup>50</sup> (2014) USA	Qualitative study	14 kinesiology students.	Explore kinesiology students' perceptions of working in a student-led group with children with physical disabilities.	Student-led exercise class for those with physical disabilities. Each student led 6 consecutive weekly	Positive impact of the class on attitudes to those with disability. Improved communication skills.

				classes in a station model.	
Seif <i>et al.</i> <sup>13</sup> (2014) USA	Experimental pre/post-test study	Various students in an IPL clinic.	Examines benefits of a SRFC as a SL experience for pharmacy, medical, nursing, PT, and physical assistant students.	PT and OT therapy clinic on main campus. Patients are seen once weekly. All students are required to participate in the SLC at least 4 times per semester.	Improvement in interprofessional behavior and clinical reasoning.
Shrader <i>et al.</i> <sup>51</sup> (2010) USA	Evaluation	IPL clinic student participants (n=74). Students from Pharmacy, PT, physician assistant, and medicine.	Evaluate changes to student attitudes towards IPL health care professional roles and teamwork.	Clinic operates 3 evenings per week from 6pm to 10pm and accepts up to 10 patents per evening. All students enrolled were required to provide patient care 5 evenings per semester. Students worked in IPL health care teams.	Significant improvements were found in attitudes towards increased experience working in IPL teams and understanding roles and responsibilities of different health care roles.
Sick <i>et al.</i> <sup>52</sup> (2014) USA	Observational Cohort Study.	Medicine, nursing, PT, pharmacy, public health and social work students in a student-run free clinic.	To evaluate longitudinal impact of student-run free clinics on interprofessional attitudes and skills of students.	Students apply to become a clinic volunteer in first year of their education. If accepted, the student agrees to a 2 year commitment to be a student volunteer. Students can apply for a board leadership role in their 2 <sup>nd</sup> year.	Students who were accepted to volunteer for the clinic experience a higher attitude and skills rating than those who do not indicating the educational model of the clinic offers some additional benefit.

				The walk-in clinic runs twice per week and students are supervised by volunteer clinicians.	
Sick <i>et al.</i> <sup>53</sup> (2017) USA	Observational cohort study	Medicine, nursing, PT, pharmacy, public health, and social work students in a SRFC.	To evaluate longitudinal impact of SRFCs on interprofessional attitudes and skills of students in working with those who are under-served.	Students apply to become a clinic volunteer in first year of their education. If accepted, the student agrees to a 2-year commitment to be a student volunteer. Students can apply for a board leadership role in their 2nd year.  The walk-in clinic runs twice per week and students are supervised by volunteer clinicians.	Students who volunteered for the clinic experience more favorable attitudes towards the under-served than those who do not have the volunteering experience.
Stickler <i>et al.</i> <sup>54</sup> (2013) USA	Qualitative study	2nd- and 3rd-year DPT students.	Explore perceptions of PT students involved in the SLC.	Student-led PT services are provided once weekly at a local health care clinic for 3 hours. A licensed PT and student PT are paired to provide the service.  The operations of the clinic are managed by student volunteers.	Students indicated the volunteering experience led them to an increased sense of care and compassion, altruism, social responsibility, and accountability, as well as increased clinical decision-making and creativity.

Stickler <i>et al.</i> <sup>55</sup> (2016) USA	Retrospective study	28 patient data records analyzed of those who attended a student-led PT clinic.	Evaluate pre- and post-treatment outcomes of patients to establish quality of care for those who are under-served or uninsured.	IPL clinic offering PT, OT, and primary care. PT is offered once a fortnight.	Significant improvements were noted in the health (physical and functional) outcomes. Mental health changes were not significant.
Stickler <i>et al.</i> <sup>69</sup> (2017) USA	Retrospective study	Patient data records analyzed between January 2013 and December 2014.	To establish cost of running a PT SRC for costs. To quantify equipment and cost per person. To estimate facility costs. To derive a cost of delivery per patient.	Volunteer clinic open one evening every 2 weeks. Average 25 nights per year. Students are mentored by a qualified PT. Average of 9 PT students are in the clinic each night. Each patient is typically seen for 1-3 visits.	Clinic has an average cost per visit of approx. \$7.
Sutherland Chronic care Student-led clinic <sup>64</sup> (2013) Australia	Report	IPL model of care: exercise physiology, dietetics, nursing, OT, PT, social work, and speech pathology.	Develop a model of care for SLC to create extra placements and target unmet health needs of the community.	Collaboration between two universities: inpatient student-led model as well as community student-led model; both IPL.  3rd- and 4th-year undergraduate students and final-year graduate entry students.	No outcomes reported.
University of Bradford <sup>67</sup> (2019)	Case study	Student-led neurological PT clinic.	Provide experiential learning environment for students. Secondary	4 students attend once weekly. One qualified physiotherapist oversees	Positive impact on student learning was reported. Service users

UK			aim is to provide intervention for those with neurological impairment looking for PT within a learning environment.	<p>clinic. Students attend on a volunteer/optional basis.</p> <p>Steering group with student participants set up to progress the clinic.</p> <p>Service users pay a minimal amount to attend.</p>	were satisfied with the clinic.
University of Canberra <sup>63</sup> (2019) Australia	Webpage	PT student-led clinic.	Low-cost treatment for patients with no insurance.	MSc and BSc Hons PT students.	No outcomes reported.
Willard and Crandell <sup>56</sup> (2017) USA	Mixed methods study	Undergraduate exercise science students.	Investigate if inter-generational SL improves knowledge and attitudes to working with elders.	16-week student-led exercise program for older adults within the community. Students designed and led the weekly classes.	Some qualitative data to suggest attitudes towards older adults became more positive.
Wilson <sup>57</sup> (2006) USA	Descriptive study	DPT students providing pro bono therapy in a SLC.	Describes implementation of SL and highlights students and faculty learning.	<p>PT students assume dual roles of student clinicians as well as managers.</p> <p>In each DPT year (1, 2, and 3) students complete a minimum of 4 volunteering hours at</p>	Students report developing and learning leadership, communication, and teamwork.



				the clinic. In years 1 and 2 this is in peer teams, in year 3 it is individual.	
Worcester News <sup>66</sup> (2016) UK	News article.	PT students.	Student-led PT service for clients with neurological conditions.	Runs 3 times per week at university campus. Two are group sessions and one session is for 1:1.	No outcomes noted.

675 DCP, direct care provider; DPT, doctorate of physiotherapy; IPL, interprofessional learning; OT, occupational therapy; PT, physiotherapy; SL, service learning;  
676 SLC, student-led clinic; SRC, student-run clinic.