Parenting and Disability
Attitudes and professional behaviour towards disabled parents (3 hours)

Having a good professional attitude is an important part of a health care professional's role in caring for new parents with disabilities. There can be many stereotypical perceptions and it is important to identify and correct these ideas. The following exercises highlight the importance of the inter-professional skills required to dispel and correct any misunderstandings. You will also appraise the benefit of 'joined up thinking' in order to dispel these negative attitudes.

e-tivity 1 (1.5 hours)

Purpose
To gain a better understanding of the negative attitudes new parents living with a disability experience and promote consistent care for all disabled parents.

Task
1) Listen to the following 2 podcasts, one from a mother and the other from a father who have experienced prejudice
   - Podcast 1: Parenting and Disability - Attitudes towards disability.mp3
   - Podcast 1: Parenting and Disability - Attitudes towards disability.pdf
   - Podcast 2: Parenting and Disability - Disabled father with twins.mp3
   - Podcast 2: Parenting and Disability - Disabled father with twins.pdf

2) Write 100 words about how in your uniprofessional role might address some of these negative attitudes…(Note to facilitator – suggest a
wiki e.g. ‘Podcast 1 – Attitudes’)

3) Consider how (or if ) your role might change if you were involved in a multi-disciplinary team looking after the disabled father with twins ...(Note to facilitator – suggest a wiki e.g. ‘Podcast 2 – Twins’)
(100 words) Consider the benefits to the father of an interprofessional approach.

Respond
Reflect and comment on your deliberations and those of at least two other colleagues from a different profession (100 words) in a…(Note to facilitator – suggest a discussion board)

e-tivity 2 (1.5 hours)

Purpose
To consider the evidence supporting the suggestions from e-tivity 1

Task
Consider the following statement:

‘Disabled parents can feel very vulnerable as they approach parenting not least if they feel health professionals will be judging their capabilities for their new role.’

From evidence based resources, list at least 2 resources from your uniprofessional background that you could use to better your understanding of this statement. Briefly describe what this resource states.

Post your evidence…(Note to facilitator – suggest a wiki)

Respond
Respond to at least 2 resources from colleagues who are from a different profession to your own.

How are they different/similar to your own profession?

What are the benefits of an interprofessional approach to address this?
During the course of these e-tivities, you may wish to add more resources to this wiki. Please ensure that you return to this e-tivity at a later date.