

Introduction

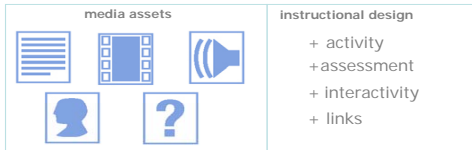
Health care associated infection (HCAI) remains a major issue of patient safety and all healthcare workers (HCWs) face challenges to their practice in order to achieve and sustain a reduction in HCAIs. Historically, there has been insufficient education and training in the area of infection prevention and control. Consequently, there have been calls for NHS Trusts to review their policies on the provision of education and training on infection control procedures. Trusts are now responsible for ensuring that all HCWs are targeted by induction training and that HCWs who have day to day contact with patients are kept up to date on good infection prevention and control practice. The use of RLOs specific to infection prevention and control can contribute to the education and training of HCWs.

The LOLA project

LOLA (Learning Objects: Lifelong Application) is a cross sector collaborative project funded by a grant from the Eduserv Foundation. Multimedia reusable learning objects (RLOs) covering topics in infection control, medicines & prescribing are being developed by lecturers and practitioners from the FE, HE and NHS sectors. Stored in a repository, these learning objects will be freely available for use by students and clinicians at different stages of their training.

What are RLOs?

Reusable learning objects are small units of web-based learning. They consist of:



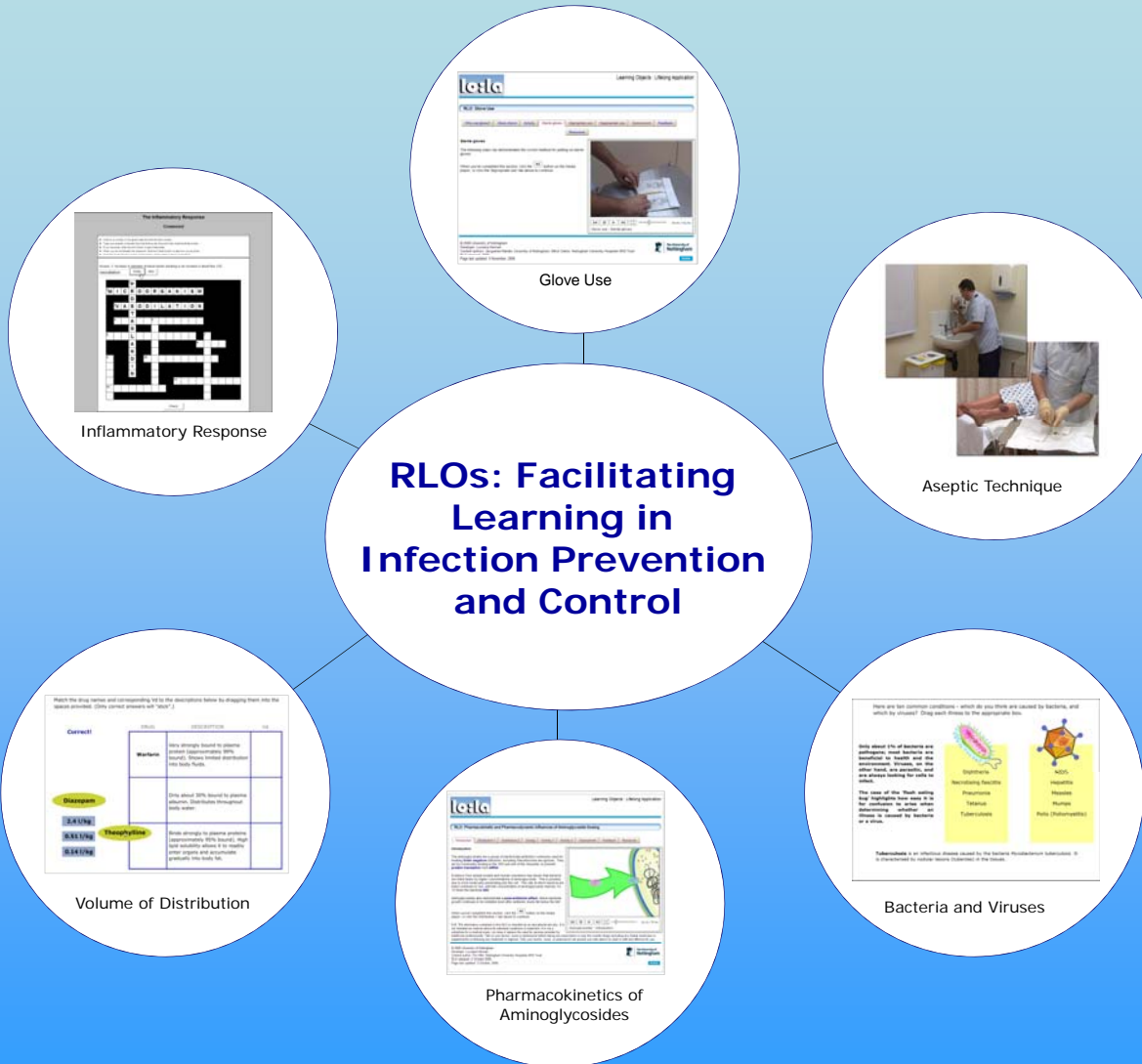
Their design is pedagogically-led:

- Based on a single learning objective
- Support active learning
- Assessment alignment
- No external dependencies
- Context is minimised
- Labelled with metadata
- Flexible delivery

How is quality ensured?

A rigorous framework of review using a series of developed tools that allows for:

- Pedagogical review
- Technical review by Media developers
- Peer-review at specification and production stages
- Student-review at specification and production stages

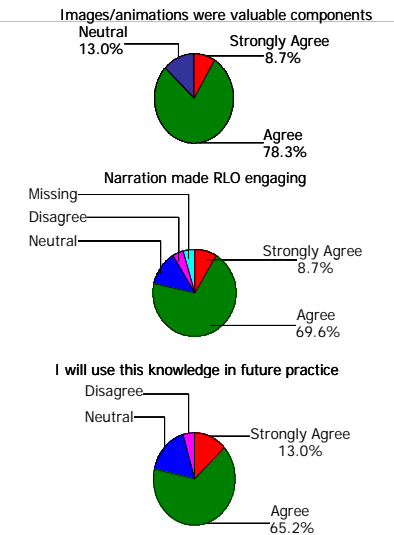


Evaluation

Ensuring that RLOs are effective learning resources is at the heart of the LOLA programme.



Some initial findings



"This one was good to go over and over again until I got it right and for revision"
 "Diagrams really useful"
 "Liked the visual analogues,"
 "fantastic way of learning and remembering"
 "Very practical in terms of use/understanding in practice"
 "Excellent learning tool"

Students comments

All RLOs are freely available at: <http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/nursing/sonet/rlos>

If you have an idea for an RLO or just want to find out more about the design and development of RLOs then please e-mail:
jacqueline.randle@nottingham.ac.uk
mitch.clarke@nuh.nhs.uk
heather.wharrad@nottingham.ac.uk