



The last 2 years have been difficult for everyone both in a work and home environment due to COVID and within that time I was also trying to complete my PG Dip from University of Birmingham to become MACP accredited. Unfortunately, the placement I had lined up from April to July 2020 was cancelled and during this time my place of work said they would be unable to fund a future module. In addition to this, I had recently got married, and my wife was pregnant, so money was tight. It was during this period I become aware of the grants the MACP offer, and I was fortunate to apply for one and be successful. Not only did this help with the financial cost of the module, but it also meant I could complete the course before my child was born.

The placement opportunity I had was an excellent blend of both face to face and virtual assessments. This form of Physiotherapy was new for the vast majority of us in the profession, and the placement really helped to hone my skills to this way of working. It was invaluable to have a high level of supervision for the placement, as well as having access to senior clinicians to provide feedback on my communication skills and also to help to develop my clinical reasoning skills.

Within my place of work, I routinely mentor junior staff and subsequently, having finished this program, I have found I frequently use my enhanced communication and clinical reasoning skills with colleagues. The placement also provided me with an increased awareness of the skills required to be an effective mentor. I am extremely grateful for the financial contribution the MACP made to help me gain this qualification. My place of work regularly has MACP students, and in the future I look forward to being able to work with other colleagues to enhance the experiences of these students.

Kevin Tucker – MSc Award Winner 2020