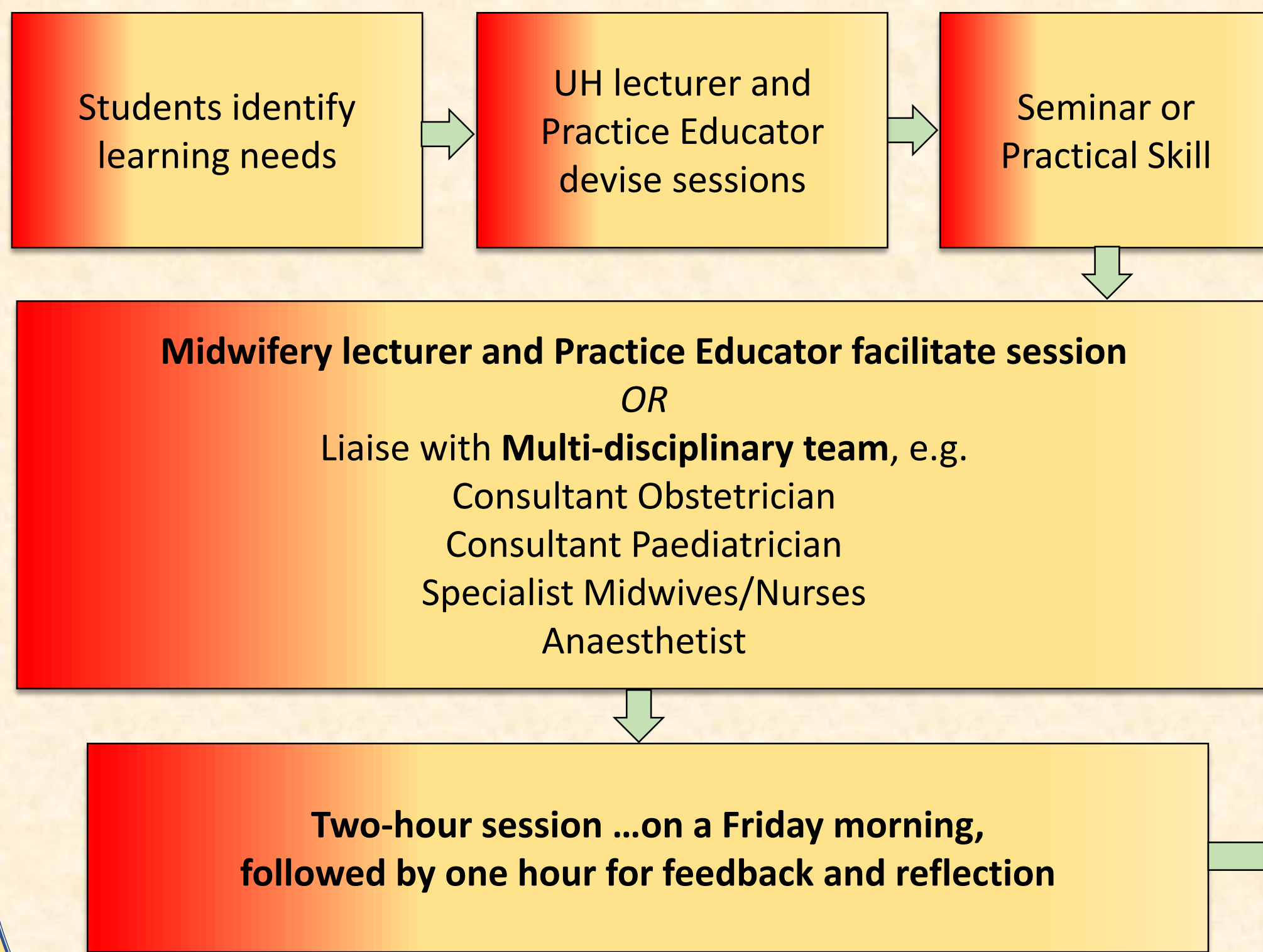


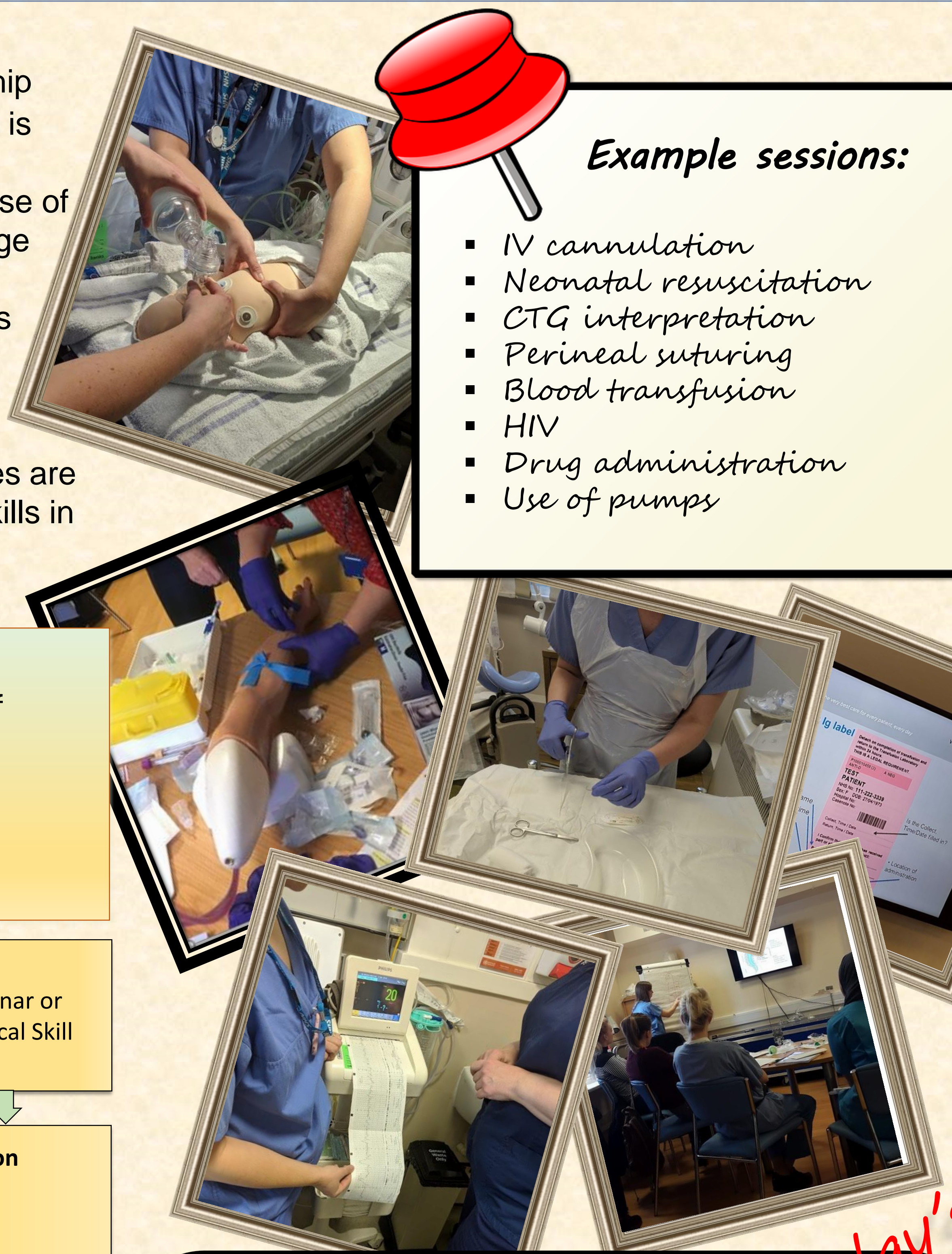
**Background:** Effective partnership working between NHS Trusts and universities is a fundamental aspect of any pre-registration midwifery education programme<sup>1</sup>. Over the course of the programme, students develop their knowledge and skills through a combination of theory and experience in clinical practice, however, students have raised concerns over their confidence in performing some clinical skills, or a desire to strengthen their knowledge in specific areas. Research has shown that when student midwives are provided with opportunities to practice clinical skills in a safe simulated environment, it contributes to greater confidence<sup>2</sup>.

**Our aims:**

- To reduce anxiety and increase confidence of student midwives in performing clinical skills
- To complement and build on current theoretical and practical learning
- Support student development and ease the transition from student to midwife



*Acknowledgements:* Special thanks to all the health professionals involved in facilitating these sessions, the Practice Development Midwives at the trust and the Watford Link Lecturer team. Thanks also to the students for ongoing engagement and support for this project. May 2019.



**Example sessions:**

- IV cannulation
- Neonatal resuscitation
- CTG interpretation
- Perineal suturing
- Blood transfusion
- HIV
- Drug administration
- Use of pumps

One year on, formal feedback from students has overwhelmingly supported this initiative, with highly positive results that reflect the benefit to their knowledge and future practice, which, in turn, can only have a positive effect on the future care of women.

**Evaluation:**

- Attendance: varies, average 6-8 students
- Objectives of sessions: 100% satisfaction
- Length of session: 99% satisfaction
- Overall: Excellent 100%

**Student feedback:**

High risk care and escalation: **“Excellent session, nice to work in small groups as questions answered easier”**

**“These sessions must continue – totally invaluable”**

Anaesthetist’s role: **“A fabulous session, building knowledge and evidence. Session should be compulsory for students!”**

**“Very informative talk on management of women who are HIV positive who have babies. Key information I wasn’t aware of.”**

This project is now being opened up to medical students, nursing associates and midwifery students from other clinical sites linked to the university. It continues to be structured around learning needs identified by the students across year groups.

*Friday's*

**T.G.I.**  
**TRAINING. GUIDANCE.**  
**INFORMATION.**

**Bi-weekly sessions to support student midwives in clinical practice.**

**Jackie Dent** & **Vibe Truels**  
 Senior Midwifery Lecturer, School of Health and Social Work, University of Hertfordshire  
 Practice Education Facilitator, Maternity Services, West Herts Hospitals NHS Trust

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 1. Nursing and Midwifery Council. (2009). Standards for pre-registration midwifery education. London: NMC  
 2. Fraser, D.M., Avis, M. & Malik, M. (2013). The MINT project – an evaluation of the impact of midwife teachers on the outcomes of pre-registration midwifery education in the UK. *Midwifery*, 29(1), 86-94.  
 DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.midw.2011.07.010>