Slide 1	On being open-minded: Healthcare practice and the art of being wrong Derek Sellman 16th March 2018	
Slide 2	An open mind? To slightly misquote Frank Zappa "A mind is like a parachute. It only works when it's open" So what does it mean to have an open mind?	
Slide 3	An open mind? "To be open-minded is to be open to the possibility that one might be wrong about – and consequently willing to amend - any one of one's opinions, beliefs, values, commitments, views, and so on;	

An open mind?

"To be open-minded is to be open to the possibility that one might be wrong about – and consequently willing to amend - any one of one's opinions, beliefs, values, commitments, views, and so on; however strongly those opinions, views, beliefs, values, commitments, and so on are held". (Sellman, 2018, p. 1)

Slide 5

An open mind?

"In the practice of nursing, open-mindedness would also seem to require that a nurse be open to the possibility that she or he may be wrong to act in such a such a way – and therefore willing to act differently – in any one of her or his actions,

Slide 6

An open mind?

"In the practice of nursing, open-mindedness would also seem to require that a nurse be open to the possibility that she or he may be wrong to act in such a such a way – and therefore willing to act differently – in any one of her or his actions, at least where those actions arise from her or his opinions, beliefs, values, commitments, views, and so on; and at least where those actions are related to nursing practice" (Sellman, 2018, p. 1)

Structure for today

- The nature of open-mindedness
- Common understandings of open-mindedness
- Limits to open-mindedness
- Open-mindedness a professional virtue?
- Healthcare practice and open-mindedness

Slide 8

The nature of open-mindedness

"the open-minded person is one who is able and willing to form an opinion, or revise it, in the light of evidence and argument"

(Hare, 1988, p. 123)

Slide 9

The nature of open-mindedness

Properly understood, open-mindedness is a fundamental intellectual virtue that involves a willingness to take relevant evidence and argument into account in forming or revising our beliefs and values,

Slide 10 The nature of open-mindedness Properly understood, open-mindedness is a fundamental intellectual virtue that involves a willingness to take relevant evidence and argument into account in forming or revising our beliefs and values, especially when there is some reason why such evidence and argument might be resisted by the individual in question (Hare, 2003, p. 76) Slide 11 Common understandings and misunderstandings of open-mindedness • Keeping an open mind/The jury is out • A closed mind? • A mind too open? • An empty mind? • A mind without commitment? • Holding opinions in an open-minded way

Four categories of open-mindedness

(Sellman, 2011)

The 'insufficient evidence' category
The 'not attended to' category
The 'inconclusive' category
The 'firm view' category

Slide 12

Holding opinions in an
open-minded way
The 'firm view' category
Strength of opinion

Slide 14

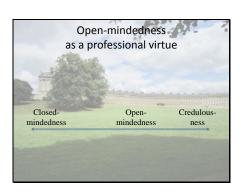


Slide 15





Slide 17



Slide 18

Healthcare practice and
open-mindedness
Evidence-based practice
 Tension between protocol and autonomous practice
The closed-minded practitioner
The credulous practitioner

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