

Sigma Theta Tau International, the Honor Society of Nursing

Creating Healthy Work Environments 2022

Presentation

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Presentation Title

Building a Plane While Flying It: Responding to Rapidly Changing Needs in Healthcare

Presenters

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Abstract Pertains To: Academic

Abstract Topic Category: Teaching/learning strategies

Target Group: Clinical, Academic and Students

Is Body System / Disease Process: No

Completed: Completed Work/Project

Summary

This presentation provides an overview of innovative responses to the healthcare challenges of the global pandemic. Lessons learned related to the care of patients, colleagues, and self-care will be highlighted as well as approaches for dealing with innovation fatigue, and patient safety.

Abstract

Background The international COVID 19 pandemic created an urgent need to transition in-person patient care and education to virtual experiences using telehealth. Similarly, nurse educators transitioned in-person skills training to online format rapidly in response to this need. Technology, current events, and generational differences are reshaping clinical and educational landscapes. Concurrently, the expectations for engagement with instructional content are evolving and teaching and learning strategies in nursing are rapidly changing, particularly in the online environment. Student and patient learning are more meaningful in an environment that fosters a high degree of engagement. This project utilized the cognitive apprenticeship theory to scaffold the distance delivery of clinical skills training required for advanced practice nursing students. **Purpose** The purpose of this presentation is to demonstrate the effectiveness of a virtual approach in health care education

(both teaching nurses clinical skills as well as teaching patients about health care issues), creating a supportive social community, and teaching providers how to deliver patient care via telehealth.

Methods This project utilized the cognitive apprenticeship theory to scaffold the virtual delivery of clinical skills training required for advanced practice nursing students. Virtual simulation or telesimulation allows for exercising motor control skills (hand skills for physical assessment), making decision skills (the clinical management process), or communication skills (as members of a healthcare team). Clinical skills have historically been taught in an apprenticeship model, and continue to be taught via the clinical precepting experience. Cognitive Apprenticeship Theory offers an opportunity for students to “apprentice” with faculty as content experts prior to the clinical experience. **Results** This project encompassed modeling, coaching, and teach-back that are critical to skill development and created a positive social setting in which knowledge was cultivated and situated. As a part of these virtual experiences, socialization into the student’s future advanced practice role occurred. Students indicated that they had more confidence and felt prepared for their clinical rotations. Students also noted that they were concerned that they would be “missing out” on the in-person experience, but they felt that their virtual experience provided them with the tools they need to be successful in their upcoming clinical rotations. The themes identified reflected patient, colleague, and self-care; innovation fatigue; and patient safety.

Implications for Practice The findings from this initiative apply to nursing education and to patient care as nurses respond to the pandemic and other healthcare challenges in today’s world. Lessons learned from this project inform the activities that can be accomplished in a distance format and provide support for in-person delivery of care. Implications for practice are applicable to guide the transition of patient care visits to the telehealth format.

References

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