

A Comparison of Two Approaches to Orient Prelicensure Nursing Students to a Simulated Learning Environment

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Background

- Student stress & anxiety related to simulation
- Current state of simulation & orientation
- New style of orientation

Methods

- Applied for IRB, determined to be a QI project
- 168 sophomore nursing students
- Approximately ¹/₂ attended the new orientation
- Remaining students were the control group
- Post-simulation survey 145 respondents
 - 18 total questions
 - Modified STAI / GSE scales
 - 4 point Likert scale
 - 3 qualitative questions



Results

- Qualitative
 - Several desired changes
 - Numerous items to stay the same
- Quantitative
 - Only 1 statistically significant difference between the 2 groups
 - Numerous non-significant differences



Discussion

- Conflicted data
 - Control group felt better prepared to handle whatever came their way
 - Treatment group scores trended in the direction of feeling less worried
- Small sample size

Limitations / Future Implications

- Scheduled during lab time
- New orientation was unexpected
- Static mannikins used in sophomore year
- Gap over summer
- Will continue QI project

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