

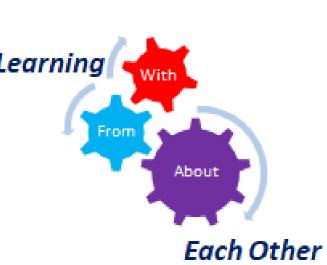
An Innovative Approach to Interprofessional Education: Teaching Patient Safety Using Patient Advisors

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Definition of Terms

Interprofessional education (IPE) Occurs when students from diverse Learning professions learn with each other to enable effective collaboration and improve health outcomes



Patient and family advisors

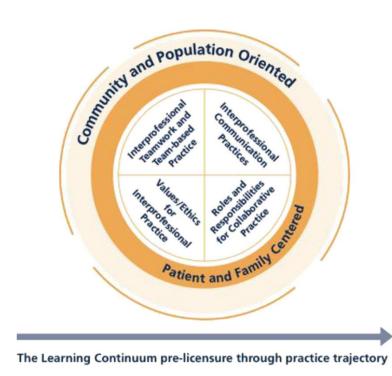
Patient advisors are former patients or family members who collaborate with healthcare organizations to improve the patient experience.

Background

- Educating health profession students about patient safety is a priority for health educators. Traditionally, teaching about patient safety involves the use of case studies, simulation scenarios, and clinical activities.
- An innovative approach to develop and implement interprofessional education (IPE) activities that promote safety is to partner with patient advisors.
- Involving patients and their families promotes understanding the patient side of healthcare, learning what really matters for the patients and their families, and engaging patients in creating a safe patient and family-centered care environment.



IPE Core Competencies



Objectives

The purposes of this study are:

- to develop and implement interprofessional education activities in partnership with patient advisors to teach patient safety,
- to promote awareness of the impact of medical errors on the patient, and
- to help students meet the Interprofessional Education Collaborative core competencies of roles/responsibilities, communication, and teamwork.

Design

- In preparation for the IPE workshop, pharmacy and nursing students were required to complete two IHI Open School patient safety courses titled:
 - PS 100: Introduction to Patient Safety and
 - ❖ PS 101: Fundamentals of Patient Safety
- On the workshop day, students were divided into four groups, each group had a mix of nursing and pharmacy students.
- The first activity was designed to help students learn about each other's roles and responsibilities.
- ❖ The second activity involved two patient safety advisors, who were invited as guests to talk about their experience as

Design Continue

* patients and to share with the students the patient safety issues that they experienced.

After the advisors left, students worked together in groups to address patients' concerns and to brainstorm ways of collaborating together to

prevent similar incidents from happening in the future.

Assessment

- Students completed a short online survey anonymously before and after the workshop.
- Survey questions were taken from the Interdisciplinary Education Perception Scale (IEPS).
- ❖ The post-workshop survey included the same questions as the pre-survey, plus questions to measure students' learning about patient safety and to evaluate the effectiveness of the educational activities.
- Students were also given the opportunity to respond to open ended questions to voice their levels of satisfaction with the activities and their recommendation for improvements.

Findings

- ❖ The IEPS survey showed that of the 54 students, over 94% of students reported that the activities enabled them to learn something from a student in a different curriculum.
- ❖ Over 92% reported that the activities increased their understanding of other healthcare professional roles and enhanced their communication skills with other professional students.
- ❖ About 89% rated the activities as excellent.

Findings Continue

- ❖ Overall, students were highly satisfied with the IPE activities and listening to real life scenarios from patient advisors.
- ❖ The activities helped students gain insight from the patient point of view concerning their care and highlighted the impact of medical errors on patients.
- Students recommended to include other health profession students, including the medical students, in the activities to add more interaction between professions.
- Students also recommended inclusion of more similar IPE activities throughout their education.

Students' Response to Inclusion of the Patient Advisors in the IPE

Category	Strongly	Neutral/Dis
	Agree/Agree	agree
This activity enhanced my knowledge of patient safety.	96.3	3.7
This activity improved my knowledge of various types of medical errors.	96.29	3.7
This activity enhanced my ability to prevent medical errors.	94.45	5.55
This activity increased my knowledge of how to handle medical errors in the future.	96.3	3.7
Hearing the patients' experiences helped me understand the impact of medical errors.	98.15	1.85

Implication for Nursing Education/Practice

- Teaching patient safety to health profession students in an IPE format from the patient point of view is paramount to health profession education.
- It will help students as they engage in collaborative practice to improve patient safety, improve patient outcomes, improve patient experience, and reduce the cost of care to help achieve the triple aim.

Contact

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