Advantages of Simulation in the Nursing Curriculum

NSG 6999

Graduate Project in Nursing

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**Practice Issue**

In the healthcare setting, the role of a professional nurse requires not only caring for the patient, but utilization of critical thinking skills to incorporate making the best decisions for the patient. Educators include critical thinking exercises in the curriculum to assist students in developing knowledge, confidence, and the critical thinking skills needed to make effective decisions (Eyikara & Baykara, 2017). One way that this can be done effectively is implementation of a sound clinical simulation lab. Over the past decade, there has been a significant increase in the use of simulation labs to provide practice for the students.

There are many advantages to simulation-based training allowing students to get immediate feedback from the instructor, individualize learning for the student, and repetitive practice in the simulation lab. Many different studies have been completed to show the importance of simulation in the nursing curriculum. In one study completed, there was a control group (no simulation) compared to a group that had traditional lecture paired with case based scenarios using simulation. Out of the 101 students that were included in this “trial,” the control group scored lower than the intervention group on patient assessment. The study determined that case based learning helped to standardize the process because the students were allotted time to practice repetitively prior to testing (Raurell-Torreda, et al., 2015).

# Issue Relevance

This issue addressed for this research proposal is the advantages of incorporating lab simulation in the nursing curriculum. Proper utilization of the simulation lab will allow the students to have hands-on practice before even stepping foot into the clinical setting. It has been shown through many different studies that the use of simulation is very beneficial to the students. Having case based scenarios illicit the students to have to do complete a full head to toe assessment and the instructor can be watching behind the glass. I believe that getting the full use of the mannequins will be in the best interest for the students. Being in the educator role, this could have a great impact on my future students that I will be teaching.

References:

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