

International Collaboration: Creation of a global clinical immersion to improve health care for at-risk communities

M. Pardee DNP^a, A. Bigelow PhD^a, N. Singha-Dong PhD^b

^aUniversity of Michigan School of Nursing, ^bSuranaree University of Technology



BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

- Many countries throughout the world face similar challenges related to rising rates of chronic disease and resource shortages.
- Students desire clinical experiences that incorporate the globalization of healthcare.
- A clinical immersion program for primary care nurse practitioner students at the University of Michigan School of Nursing (UMSN) was developed in collaboration with Suranaree University of Technology (SUT) in Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand.



PROCESS

- Initial discussion**
 - Develop faculty relationship
 - Discuss academic level of student groups to participate
 - Outline objectives for involved students
- Logistics**
 - Clinical site participants
 - Informed local authority and communities
 - Scheduling of experience – which term
 - Housing
 - Transportation
 - Cultural excursion
- Financial**
 - Fees
 - Clinical site
 - Food
 - Housing
 - Transportation in-country
 - Cultural excursion
 - Travel costs
 - International flight
- Arrangement:**
 - Clinical, community arrangement and preparation
 - Students paired in SUT/UMSN dyads



SUSTAINABILITY

- Financial
 - Student fee
 - Faculty
- Faculty
 - recruit group of rotating faculty
- Students
 - Interest in experience
 - Ability to afford opportunity



OUTCOMES

- Students**
 - University of Michigan Primary Care APRN students
 - Year 1:
 - n = 5
 - 2 clinical sites
 - Year 5:
 - n = 20
 - 3 clinical sites
 - SUT BSN students in community health rotation
 - 10 students/clinical group each year
 - Improved pass rates for examinations
- Faculty**
 - 2 UM & 2 SUT faculty years 1-4
 - 3 UM & 4 SUT faculty year 5
 - Appointing adjunct professor
- Clinical**
 - Primary community health centers
 - Clinical management of patients – clinic & home
 - Chronic disease day
 - Well-child, vaccines
 - School health, pre-school
 - Temple's health
 - Case management: mental health, case study
 - Home visits
 - Community walk through, assessment, genogram, forum, intervention
 - Projects**
 - Student-led educational intervention to reduce stroke risk, promote hypertension control, ease illnesses specific to the area,
 - Teen's health
 - Community grand rounds
 - Community
 - Education
 - Access to providers and programs

PURPOSE

- The purpose of this poster is to:
 - Outline the process for development of an international clinical collaboration
 - Share outcomes from a global clinical collaboration



CONCLUSION

- An international clinical immersion is appropriate for primary care nurse practitioner students, offers opportunities for mutual learning, is feasible and sustainable, and increases the understanding of sociocultural influences on health and health care.



“We realize the essence of our health care mission is the same in Thailand as it is at home. We are all working toward the common goal of improving the health of our patients, using a compassionate and holistic approach. It has been amazing to immerse ourselves in a different health care culture and to understand the differences, but more importantly, the similarities of our systems.” EH, UMSN student