Transforming Nursing Education: Utilization of the Ipad in laboratory and Clinical Settings
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Abstract
Utilization of iPad with sophomore BSN students in the skills lab and clinical sites to document patient data, retrieve information, and upload assignments. Our goal was to simulate the electronic medium utilized in the clinical setting while improving students' IT literacy and reducing overall expenses. There were challenges, rewards, and lessons learned for future success.

History
Health Care Clinical Practice Changes
- 1972 – 1st Electronic Medical Record (EMR)
- 1980’s – Gradual implementation of EMR’s
- 1990 – Internet improves access to health information
- 2009 – American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Providing incentives for Healthcare facilities for implementation of EMR.

UC College of Nursing
- 2013 - I pad instituted at UC College of Nursing
  - Mostly used as lecture platform
  - Sparsely implemented in lab
- 2015 - Electronic documentation programs investigated
  - Did not enhance student comprehension
  - Additional cost to students
- 2016 - Faculty encouraged to find cost savings
- 2017 - Paperless lab documentation

Implementation
Apps
- iAnnotate
- Word
- Pages
- Mind Meister
- iTunes U
- Box

Course Management System (Blackboard)

Orienting Students
- I Pad orientation prior to semester start
- Course-specific training occurred first week of lab
- Ongoing IT support

Orienting Faculty
- Prior to semester
- Course-specific training
- On-line Grading

Rewards
Students
- Immediate availability of feedback upon grading
- Portability
- Simulates IT platform used in clinical settings

Faculty
- Decreased amount of papers carrying around
- Reduced time spent grading
- Enhanced feedback communication with students

System
- Cost savings - printing, human resources

To date cost savings for lab/clinical conversion has been an estimated $4400 for printing alone Does not include savings of human resources in decreased time spent grading

Challenges
Students
- Lack of engagement
- Lack of understanding of submission
- Detracted from the intent of the assignment
- Failed to read faculty feedback

Faculty
- Lack of buy-in
- Insufficient engagement
- Poor Role Modeling

System Challenges
- Functionality of platform
- Availability of Apps
- Changes to Course Management System

Lessons Learned
Students
- Enhance orientation
- Leverage peer leaders
- Provide ongoing support

Faculty
- Buy-in is essential
- Serve as role models
- Enhance orientation
- Provide ongoing support

System
- Strong IT support
- Intentional assignment development
- Restructuring of lab time

References
