Educating the Next Generation of Perioperative Nurses: Building Competence with Technology

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Overview
Based on a shortage of perioperative nurses, an academic collaborative practice partnership was established between Adelphi University College of Nursing and Public Health and NYU Langone Winthrop Hospital to develop a perioperative nursing course that will enhance the workforce in the specialized practice setting of Perioperative nursing.

Purpose
The purpose is to provide unique educational opportunities in an undergraduate baccalaureate program by infusing technology into an elective Perioperative course and have students gain skills needed to safely and successfully function in the quick paced perioperative environment.

Benefits
- Maintain practice partnership to advance the future of nursing practice
- Students exposed to high fidelity simulation, situations and conditions they might not otherwise observe in a traditional nursing curriculum
- Institutional cost saving related to recruitment, retention and orientation
- Marketability for student after graduation
- Positive outcomes of students knowledge acquisition, confidence and competence to practice safely in a specialized area of nursing.
- Students are qualified for the Perioperative Fellowship Program

"Learning is the process whereby knowledge is created through the transformation of experience”
— Kolb (1984)

Design
- Institutional commitment to students learning experiences, Collaborative Partnership
- Designed two credit perioperative course based on QSEN Competencies
- Development of:
  - Perioperative Specific learning objectives
  - Competences
  - High Fidelity Simulation
  - OR Observational Day
- Faculty Support from Academic Partner
- Preceptor education, Expert Clinician Preceptors
- Clinical Capstone Placement- 200 clinical hours
- Entrance to Fellowship Program
- Potential Employment

Evaluation
- Self-Reflection Improvement Plans Post Simulation
- Skills Competencies
- Daily Logs
- Capstone grading rubric
- Summative assessment
- Student Survey results

Triad of Pedagogical Strategies

Discussion
Including specialized topics in nursing curriculum, a triad of pedagogical strategies leads to a competent novice Perioperative nurse. A unique infusion of high fidelity simulation, a technologically rich precepted OR learning experience and a fellowship placement yielded competent graduates and a cost saving of orientation time to the hospital.

References