Improving Self-Confidence of Nursing Students Through Implementation of a Workplace Violence Virtual Simulation

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Purpose: Acts of violence against nurses are often accepted as part of the job and go unreported which can be damaging to the nurse and their ability to care for patients. According to a nationwide survey of nurses and nursing students conducted by the American Nurses Association (2015), 43% of 3,765 respondents reported being physically and verbally assaulted at work by a patient or patient family member. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2015) nurses experience the greatest increase in injuries related to workplace violence (WPV). It is imperative that senior level nursing students are prepared to deal with WPV and have increased self-confidence in managing common violent situations they may encounter as licensed nurses (Martinez, 2017). The purpose of this Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) translational project is to determine if the implementation of an education module and a violence against nurses' virtual simulation for senior level Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) students will increase their self-confidence in managing common violent situations they may encounter as soon to be licensed nurses. The specific aim of this project is to enhance students' knowledge about workplace violence (WPV), increase their confidence and ability to recognize signs of aggression, and practice evidence-based interventions to deescalate violence in the workplace.

Methods: This project will use a pre-test post-test design to evaluate the implementation of a Workplace Violence Learning Module and virtual simulation. The project is an educational intervention aimed to enhance students' knowledge about WPV, increase their confidence and ability to recognize signs of aggression, and practice evidence-based interventions to deescalate violence in the workplace ultimately protecting themselves and their patients. Quantitative data will be obtained from the participants measured confidence levels via the pre- and post-intervention surveys. Dependent sample T -Tests will be used to compare the means of pre- and post-test data from the surveys. Descriptive statistics will be utilized to describe the population. Normality of data will be statistically analyzed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) software.

Results: To be determined. Project will be implemented August 2020.

Conclusion: Patient violence against nurses is a constant and valid local and global concern, and is an issue requiring action and advocacy on the behalf of nurses and novice nurses are often more vulnerable to possible harm from WPV than other health care providers (Park et al., 2015; Martinez, 2017). A practice gap has been identified through a needs assessment within an ASN nursing program for graduating seniors that has no current curriculum or simulation related to workplace violence against nurses. Current literature supports the need for awareness and strategies to prevent WPV against nurses and measures to improve nurses' self-confidence in managing common violent situations they may encounter in the workplace. It is imperative that senior level

nursing students are prepared to manage WPV and have increased self-confidence in managing common violent situations they may encounter as licensed nurses.

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Keywords:
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Abstract Summary:
The activity is an educational intervention aimed to enhance students' knowledge about WPV, increase their confidence and ability to recognize signs of aggression, and practice evidence-based interventions to deescalate violence in the workplace ultimately protecting themselves and their patients.

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