Invited to repeat the NCLEX®-RN?
How Faculty Can Help Improve Student Outcomes!

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Purpose

To assist repeat NCLEX® candidates to be successful on a subsequent test attempt.
Methodology

• Synchronous (on-line) seminar.

• Students are invited and must sign up for the seminar.

• A limited number of students are allowed in each seminar.

• Led by an experienced nurse-educator (NCLEX® expert).

• Nurse educators as Teaching Assistants (TAs) during seminar.

• Objective – Determine why “I was invited back to the NCLEX®”. 
Why Was I Invited Back to Retake the NCLEX® Examination?

1. “I let anxiety get the best of me.”
2. “I didn’t understand the NCLEX exam.”
3. “I didn’t understand essential nursing content.”
4. “I didn’t use the Decision Tree.”
5. “I did not prepare properly.”
NCLEX®-RN Repeat Test Takers

- NCSBN
- Kaplan
- Int'l
How to Manage Anxiety

• Use positive self talk
• Evaluate what you do well
• Visualize success
• Take breaks
• Practice Practice Practice
• Do NOT cram
• Get professional help if you need it
What the NCLEX® Examination Really Testing?

Are you competent and safe to practice nursing?

It does this by judging your ability to answer thinking questions.
Computer Adaptive Testing (CAT)

• The computer will push you to your limit looking for your level of competency.

• Every candidate finds the test challenging.

• The computer bases each question given on the previous question answered & the Test Plan.
Lack of Knowledge of Nursing Content

Which of these sounds like you?

• “I focused on memorizing information.”

• “I reviewed only the wrong answers.”

• “I tried to learn everything in nursing.”
Think About Your Thinking* (*Active Remediation)

- Did you get the question correct? For the right reason?
- Look at each question you miss
  - Content Gap? STOP and look it up immediately
  - Know the Content? APPLY it to the question
- Identify
  - Where did your thinking go wrong? Why?
    - Did your answer address the problem/topic
  - Where were you correct in your thinking
  - What are you going to do differently next time?
NCLEX® Critical Thinking

• Requires you to determine exactly what the question is asking!

• Requires you to select the answer that represents the safest nursing judgment.

• Did you fall back on how you took your school exams?

• Did you just look for a right answer?
The Decision Tree

1. Topic of the question

2. Assessment vs Implementation (or other rules)

3. Physical vs Psychosocial

4. ABCs

5. What is the outcome? Does it make sense?
How to Achieve the Goal

Self Evaluation of each test

Remediation of every question

Follow the Study Plan
Implications

• Effects on faculty/nursing school

• Student feelings
  • Devastated - a blow to confidence
  • Isolated - I’m the only one
  • “I did everything”
  • Embarrassment & shame

• Could guidance/mentoring improve subsequent passing rates?

• Could this methodology assist first time test takers?
NCLEX®-RN Repeat Test Takers
References

References, cont.


• NCSBN published NCLEX results, retrieved: [https://www.ncsbn.org/1237.htm](https://www.ncsbn.org/1237.htm)


Thank You!

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