Simulation has been used in nursing education for many decades. An early mention of simulation was made by Burns in 1984 who used the term in competitive simulation or gaming.

**Importance of Simulation**

Changes in healthcare which support the use of Simulation as a learning strategy include:

- Increases in student enrollment
- Decreased availability of clinical site placements
- Faculty shortages

**Methods and Sample Selection**

Literature search was conducted in 5 and 10 year increments using three keyword phrases: 1) Skills practice and nursing, 2) Simulation and nursing, and 3) Learning lab and nursing.

**Attributes of Simulation:**

- Safety in the learning environment
- Teaching/Learning opportunities
- Experiential, learner actively involved
- Real/Life-like environment and situation
- Control exposure to the learning scenario

**Antecedents of Simulation:**

- Acquisition of new skills
- Opportunity for learning and practice
- Evaluation of student performance

**Consequences of Simulation:**

- Safe patient care
- Opportunities for self-directed learning
- Improved abilities for clinical decision making and clinical reasoning
- Increased learner self-confidence

**References:**


**Contact Info**

Margaret E. Curnin MSN, RN
mcurnin@acad.umass.edu