

IMPROVING EFFECTIVENESS OF STUDENT LEARNING DURING CLINICAL ROTATIONS AT A TEACHING HOSPITAL IN RWANDA

Presented by
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FACULTY DISCLOSURE

Faculty Name:	Nanyombi Lubimbi
Conflicts of Interest:	None
Employer:	University of Illinois at Chicago, College of Nursing
Sponsorship/Commercial Suspect:	None

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal:

To emphasize the importance of structured learning for nursing students in a resource limited environment.

Objectives:

1. Understand the Human Resources for Health Program (HRH) initiative intended to improve nursing care and services in Rwanda.
2. Understand how the HRH Clinical Educators collaborated with Rwandan counterparts to provide a conducive learning environment at Rwanda Military Hospital (RMH).

BACKGROUND

- The 1994 genocide in Rwanda devastated much of the socio-economic fabric of the country as well as its health infrastructure. The healthcare system is still suffering in its aftermath.
- With the commitment to meeting the health needs of its citizens by 2020, the Government of Rwanda, through the Ministry of Health, launched the Human Resources for Health Program in August 2012.

BACKGROUND cont'd...

- The HRH Program will take place over a seven-year period.
- It will build the healthcare education infrastructure and workforce necessary to create a high quality, sustainable healthcare system in Rwanda by addressing the country's most challenging obstacles in high-quality healthcare:
 - Critical shortage of skilled health workers
 - Poor quality of health worker education
 - Inadequate infrastructure and equipment in health facilities
 - Inadequate management of health facilities

NURSING AND MIDWIFERY

- The Rwanda HRH Program is heavily focused on raising the skill level of the workforce in nursing and midwifery.
- One of the Ministry of Health's effort is to upgrade the skill level of existing A2 (secondary school) nurses and midwives, as well as dramatically increasing the production of new A1 (diploma) and A0 (Bachelor's) level nurses and midwives.
- The Ministry of Health has developed educational pathways for nurses and midwives to advance from A2 to A1 to A0 levels in an efficient sequence, raising the overall skill levels of the nursing and midwifery workforce in the country.

RWANDA MILITARY HOSPITAL

- Before the Genocide in 1994, RMH was only serving military personnel and their families.
- After 1994, RMH was a district hospital serving 20% military personnel and 80% civilians.
- In 2012 RMH became a Referral and Teaching Hospital and continues to serve 20% military personnel and 80% civilians.

NURSING STUDENTS AT RMH

- RMH receives nursing students in Level 1 to Level 4 from 3 year and 4 year Nursing School programs through out the country.
- Structured student learning has been initiated at RMH by the HRH Clinical Educator team to maximize student-learning outcomes.
- During nursing student clinical orientations at RMH, the expectations of the student learning process, as well as expected collaboration of the school-provided Clinical Instructors with RMH nurses and HRH Clinical Educators is outlined.

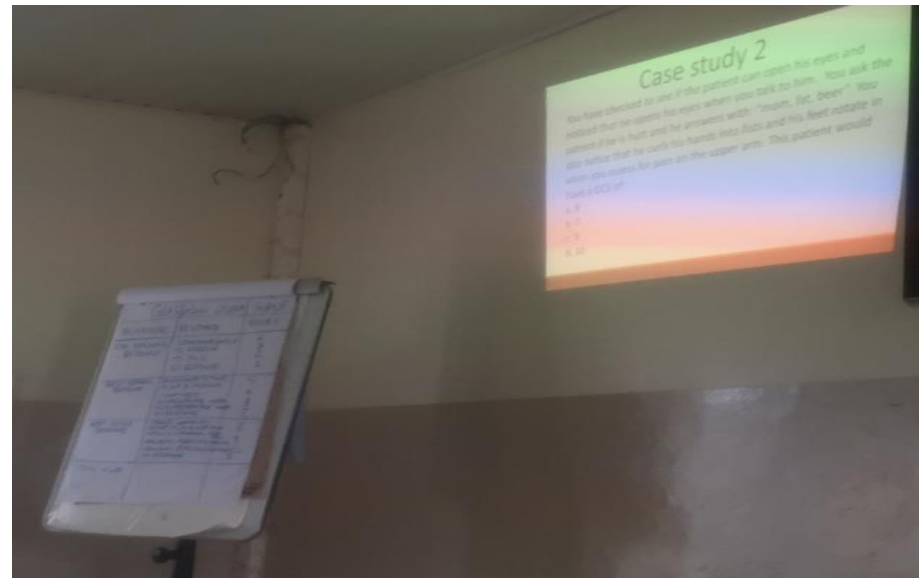
NURSING STUDENTS AT RMH cont'd...

- RMH unit managers facilitate structured learning by helping the students identify a maximum of two patients per shift, using the school's objectives to guide the appropriate allocation.
- Throughout the day, HRH Clinical Educators along with Clinical Instructors, whenever they are available, conduct ongoing assessments of learning and provide feedback to the students in real-time.
- Post-conference is conducted once a week utilizing Team Based Learning (TBL) and Case Presentations to provide students the opportunity to work as a team, present patients cases, clarify clinical questions, share experiences, and practice critical thinking skills.



HRH Clinical Educator assisting Student struggling with critical thinking

Team based learning case study



EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE

- Nursing students practicing in a structured learning environment at RMH are found to be more confident applying newly learned knowledge and skills gained during their clinical experience.
 - According to Gauder & Zauderer (2013), providing a structured learning program to nursing students contributes toward a more enjoyable experience and a decrease in anxiety, thereby promoting healthy teaching-learning environments and an ability to maximize beneficial clinical exposure.



Team based learning-Group discussions

HRH Clinical Educators teaching bedside assessments



End of Clinical Rotation



HRH NURSING TEAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Organize and manage large number of nursing students from different schools.
- Provide orientation for each new group of students with their clinical instructor/instructors present.
- Ensure students are meeting learning objectives during their clinical rotation by giving them guidelines for data collection, assessments, nursing interventions and care plans.
- Collaborate with clinical instructors to manage students and model structured learning.
- Post-conference once a week emphasizing the utilization of critical thinking skills.

HRH NURSING TEAM CHALLENGES

- Large number of student to instructor ratio
- Large number of students on the wards
- Clinical instructors are not consistently present to observe the students

HRH NURSING TEAM CHALLENGES cont'd...

- Students are often asked by nurses to carry out extra duties that do not coincide with their learning objectives
- Limited space for teaching
- Language Barrier

EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE

- According to Watt et al. (2011), the resource-sensitive characteristics of a structured learning program, including low-technology and low-cost implementation requirements, meet the needs of the resource-constrained setting present at RMH.
- The international collaborative partnerships between HRH Clinical Educators and Rwandan counterparts may aid in increasing the capacity of nursing and nursing students at RMH and fill the gaps in care as they are identified.

SUMMARY

- At this time, more research and evidence-based practice is necessary to effectively address the needs of nursing and midwifery students throughout Rwanda and across the spectrum of resource-limited practice settings.
- This project highlights just one aspect of the collaboration to establish a more efficient and cost effective clinical education model that will continue to enhance clinical skills and knowledge for all nursing students in Rwanda.

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THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS ?