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Disclosure

• **Conflict of interest statement:** The authors certify they have no affiliations with any organization with any financial interest (such as honoraria and educational grants), or non-financial interest (such as personal or professional relationships) in the subject matter discussed in this presentation.
Learner Objectives

• At the conclusion of this presentation, the learner will be able to:
  o Identify strengths of using concept-based curriculum, over traditional, medical-model nursing curriculum.
  o Gain knowledge regarding development of concept-based curriculum, syllabi, and resources.
Purpose

• The purpose of this session is to describe the Texas CBC development, curricular resources, and outcomes of demonstration projects.

  o CBC currently implemented in some nursing education programs in US
  o Proposed for implementation in Texas in 2011
  o Students need to apply and analyze learning to enhance critical thinking/reasoning
Traditional Nursing Curriculum

Focuses on the medical model, pathophysiology and the nursing process

Learners memorize information to demonstrate understanding and appease instructors

Weakness with traditional curriculum:
• Learners need to apply and analyze learning to enhance critical thinking/reasoning
Concept-based Curriculum (CBC)

• By using CBC:
  o Learners can group material in coherent ways across systems and the lifespan,
  o Apply new knowledge within the frame of the concept, and
  o Analyze information in present and future applications
Exemplars

- Explain concepts, examples of ideas or notions
- Enable the association of new knowledge to what is known
- Links made with exemplars allow learners to connect learning to real-life situations
- Learning is retained, retrievable and applicable
- Excellent means of presenting course content
- Creates a broad, cohesive grouping of information
- Applicable to a variety of scenarios
Methods

• ADN and BSN representatives, and an education consultant from the BON met monthly in Austin to establish preliminary groundwork
• Awarded an Academic Progression in Nursing (APIN) grant
• Full-time project manager
• 80 faculty from 28 nursing programs
• Developed Texas Concepts Health & Alterations (2014)
• Courses based on Health Care Concepts, Professional Nursing Concepts and Clinical Judgment were created for each semester
• Created a template for syllabi and resources for each concept
• Concept analysis diagrams (CADs) were developed
Results

• Year 1:
  o Created detailed syllabi
  o Wrote CADs, and
  o Identified resources to implement CBC
  o Established on-line learning platform
  o Changed initial 51 concepts to 43
  o Assigned concepts across curricula vs one semester
Results, cont’d

• Year 2:
  o Innovative Pilot Project curriculum change proposals submitted to BON in January 2013
  o Each accredited program submitted a substantive change proposal to the Accrediting Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)
  o 60 credit-hour curriculum was implemented at 6 community colleges
  o By the end of the second year, 13 programs adopted the curriculum
    • By the fall of 2016, this number increased to 17
Outcomes

- Texas Nursing Concept-Based Curriculum (TxNCBC) Consortium
  - Developed by-laws and procedures for curriculum revisions
  - Regular review
  - Updates resources
  - Ensures sustainability
Outcomes, cont’d

• Consortium for Advancing Baccalaureate Nursing Education in Texas (CABNET)

• APIN grant (2012)
  o Established articulation agreements for BSN (80% x 2020)
  o Enabled continuation of CBC to RN-to-BSN and MSN levels
  o Funded webinars for faculty addressing strategies and resources
Implications

• Transitioning to CBC is not easy
• Benefits of transitioning to CBC:
  o Volume of content is more reasonable
  o Concepts that progress throughout the curriculum build on increasing complexities of clinical situations
  o Students are better prepared for critical reasoning and able to transfer learning to new situations
  o CBC prepares graduates for ever-changing world where knowledge and EBP are dynamic and evolving
  o Transition to CBC provides opportunity for faculty to be innovators in nursing education
Future Research

- Evaluate the conceptual underpinnings of CBC currently used in nursing education programs
- Determine issues related to implementing CBC
- Determine the outcomes of CBC implementation as measured using attrition/graduation metrics and NCLEX-RN® pass rates for first-time test-takers.
Questions?
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