Comparison of Face-to-Face and Distance Learning Modalities in Delivering Therapeutic Crisis Management Skills Content

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Purpose

- Psychiatric mental health nursing overlaps every aspect of care for all clients in any setting
- Key component of psychiatric mental health is therapeutic crisis management
- This study compared the effectiveness and student satisfaction of face-to-face classroom and distance education in delivery therapeutic crisis management skills content to pre-licensure nursing students
- Measured by GPA, test scores, course grade, and satisfaction survey results

Background

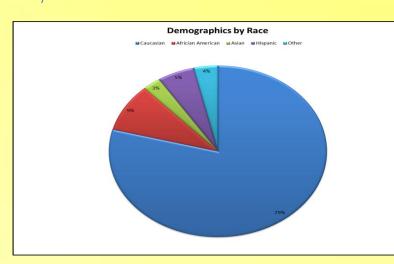
- Technology savvy students, lack of nursing faculty and clinical sites,: technology is the solution in nursing curricula^{1,2}
- Web-based and web-enhanced instruction introduces a whole new world of learning opportunities for students and instructors
- Technology immersion of students may be the most important aspect for an educator to consider when trying to meet the educational needs of this generation³
- The "old way" of didactic teaching with an instructor delivering a power point presentation in front of the classroom is no longer beneficial to student learning⁴
- Nursing jobs will increase by 26% from 2010 to 2020⁵
- Nursing shortage will be over 3.5 million nurses by the year 2025 nationwide⁶
- Psychiatric mental health conditions affect approximately 22.5% of adults and 49.5% of adolescents in the U.S⁷

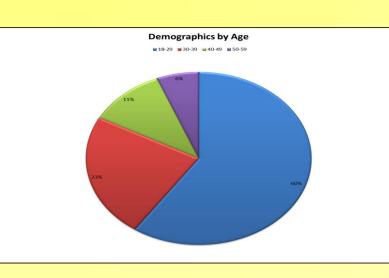
Methods

- Quasi-experimental, two group post-test design
- 2 conditions: face-to-face classroom delivery and distance education
- Convenience sample of pre-licensure nursing students, with at least two semesters completed
- Data: GPA, therapeutic crisis management test scores, course grades, and student satisfaction survey
- Student satisfaction survey was pilot tested
- Independent samples t-test analyzed data

Results

Comparison of Teaching Modalities					
	Section	Mean	SD		
GPA	Distance Education	3.05	.386		
	Face to Face	3.00	.384		
Class Grade	Distance Education	82.44	4.23		
	Face to Face	82.79	4.38		
Test Grade	Distance Education	82.08	5.88		
	Face to Face	82.84	5.20		





Overall Group Satisfaction with Modality					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	
Valid	Satisfied	56	50.9	50.9	
	Neutral	52	47.3	47.3	
	Not Satisfied	2	1.8	1.8	
	Total	110	100.0	100.0	

Conclusion

- Distance education not only satisfies the student's educational objectives, but also addresses the nursing faculty shortage
- Therapeutic crisis management techniques are vital in all aspects of nursing care
- Therapeutic crisis management techniques can be taught virtually or live with similar academic success and student satisfaction
- Nursing faculty are vital in educating the next generation of nurses using technological advances
- More research is needed to compare these methods as it translates to clinical practice
- There is a perception that clinical skills are more difficult to teach in the distance education format
- The results may indicate the need for increased incorporation and inclusion of distance education within nursing curricula
- More research is necessary to examine distance education and psychiatric mental health nursing

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