ABSTRACT

RESEARCH PAPER: Evaluation of Simulated Clinical Experiences by Associate Degree Nursing Students and Faculty

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Hands-on clinical experience for nursing students is time-limited and opportunity to observe and intervene in clinical crises is not always available. The emergence of increasingly sophisticated simulation equipment enables the student to practice both new skills and "virtual" crisis intervention in a non-threatening but realistic manner. Feedback from students has not always been definitive and more investigation must be carried out to determine if simulations from students predict confidence and competence in assessment and psychomotor skills, critical thinking, and crisis intervention. This study uses Feingold et al.'s (2004) study as a prototype, with Knowles's Theory of Andragogy as the theoretical framework. The sample will be two groups of 25 Associate Degree Nursing students and two instructors from Northwest State Community College in Archbold, Ohio. The groups will be used during two consecutive semesters of one academic year. Written permission will be obtained from all participating institutions and parties. Surveys using a 20 item tool scored on a four-point Likert scale and a 17 item tool with a four point Likert scale will be used for evaluation purposes. Survey responses will be analyzed using descriptive statistics. Findings will inform nursing faculty regarding the benefits of using high fidelity human patient simulators in nursing education.