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Starting steps, then and now: Implementation of a simulation technology electronic informatics preparatory system

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The presentation will discuss implementation of an innovative clinical practice program that integrated computerized simulation, an electronic health record, point-of-care handheld health reference and telehealth resources throughout an undergraduate nursing curriculum. The STEPS program created a student-centered learning environment that combined the quality and safety education for nurses (QSEN) elements with informatics essentials for the undergraduate nursing students' first introduction to clinical fundamentals. This foundation was integrated throughout the undergraduate nursing curriculum, targeting learning objectives to develop student critical thinking and decision making skills appropriate to their academic level (sophomore, junior and senior). Simulation case scenarios introduced students to progressive complexities of care and engaged them in active-learning situations exploring health care issues across the life span. Scenarios provided student experiences in acute care and community based settings. Core essentials of informatics were utilized in every simulation case scenario. Students gained proficiency in using technology systems to promote, support and improve patient and staff safety, interdisciplinary communication and the provision of patient centered care. Students learned the skills of navigating an electronic health record (data entry, retrieval, communication, aggregation and evidence based practice decision making), use of point-of-care hand held reference resources and telehealth methodologies in the delivery of care. Lessons learned by the project team in bringing the project to life will be discussed along with recommendations for avoiding pitfalls in implementation. Approaches used to build partnerships and support for the project from both internal and external perspectives will be examined.

Biography

Suzanne K Guzelaydin has completed her MS from the University of Michigan in 1982. Currently, she is a Lecturer II Faculty at the University of Michigan-Flint. In 2008, she was funded for a 3 year Nurse Practice, Education and Retention grant from the Health Resource Service Administration (HRSA). She has given presentations at National League of Nursing, American Academy of Nursing and Infusion Nurse Society Nation Conventions.

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