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In-hospital fall prevention for 65 and older patients

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The incidence of falls in the 65 and older hospitalized patients are a global concern to healthcare professionals. The increase in injuries related to in-hospital falls has increased in number and cost. Patient falls remain a concern to the healthcare community and especially in the acute care hospitals. It is also one of the most challenging patient safety concerns for hospitalized patients 65 and older. The purpose of this project is to identify the reasons for patient falls and the need for innovations to reduce the incidence of falls for the 65 and older hospitalized patients. This project will focus on the implementation of preventative measures to decrease in hospital falls for the elderly.

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Professional confidence: How do new graduate nurses get it?

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Professional confidence is an essential trait for new graduate nurses to possess in order to provide safe and effective patient care in today's complex hospital setting. However, many new graduates are entering the workforce without it and this remains to be explored. The purpose of this presentation is to explain how new graduate nurses accounted for their lack of professional confidence and how it developed during their first year of practice in the hospital setting. A qualitative research design was utilized to capture the lived experiences of new graduate nurses to gain an understanding of this phenomenon. Two face-to-face, individual interviews of 12 participants produced seven themes related to professional confidence and how it developed over the first year of practice. These themes include: Communication is huge, making mistakes, disconnect between school and practice, independence, relationship building, positive feedback is important, and gaining experience. These findings indicate that the development of professional confidence is a dynamic process that occurs throughout the first year of practice and new graduate nurses must experience both positive and negative circumstances in order to move towards the attainment of professional confidence. Knowing this, nurse educators in academia as well as in the hospital setting may better support the development of professional confidence both before and during the first year of practice.

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