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High fidelity simulation educational model about trauma patients

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Background: Recently, an innovative teaching strategy, scenario-based full-scale high-fidelity simulation in nursing education is gaining more attention to improve nursing students' clinical skills and competencies. Although previous researches showed that simulation-based teaching contributed to nursing students' learning outcomes, satisfaction, and self-confidence, there is no study related to using high-fidelity simulation in nursing education and its effects on students' learning outcomes in Turkey.

Aim: A quasi experimental design was used determine the effects of high-fidelity simulation experience on students' learning outcomes, self-confidence, and satisfaction.

Methods: The sample consisted of 40 volunteer undergraduate nursing students who studied at one university in Turkey and took part in a high-fidelity simulation session related to the care of trauma patients. Students were randomly allocated to either a control or an experimental group. Students from the experimental group, as well as following their normal curriculum, were exposed to scenario-based full-scale simulation training. Subsequently, both experimental and control groups were re-tested and completed a Trauma Case Questionnaire; experimental group students also completed a Student Satisfaction Questionnaire and a Patient Intervention Self-Confidence/Competency Scale. The data was collected between January 2012 and May 2012.

Results: There were no statistical differences between experimental and control group learning outcome scores (p>0.05). After the simulation session, the mean score of the experimental group students' satisfaction was 114±5.09 (out of 135) and confidence/competency score was 76.35 ±5.69 (out of 90). There was a statistically significant strong positive correlation between students' satisfaction score and confidence/competence scores (r=0.974, p<0.000). Students also reported that high-fidelity simulation was an effective method to improve their clinical skills and competencies.

Conclusion: This study indicated that students' satisfaction and confidence/competency were high after participating in high-fidelity simulation sessions. According to the study results, it is recommended to use high-fidelity simulation in nursing education as an innovative teaching strategy to develop students' clinical competencies and confidence.

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