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Interprofessional Education for Collaboration Among Pre-Licensure Baccalaureate Nursing Students and Health Information Management Students

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Registered nurses must be prepared upon entry into practice to collaborate within an interprofessional context. Considering Rthat nursing students who collaborate with other health professions are more likely to contribute effectively as team members upon entering practice, a robust change to include interprofessional education for collaboration (IPEC) in the nursing curriculum is necessary. Identifying meaningful IPEC experiences poses a challenge for nursing educators. In determining effective methods for IPEC opportunities, educators should consider inclusion of non-clinical, health-related professions such as Health Information Management (HIM) as an excellent resource for those IPEC opportunities. A mixed-method, quasi-experimental, three-group, pretest-posttest non-equivalent design was employed to determine pre-licensure senior level BSN and HIM students' (a) perception of interprofessional collaboration and (b) outcomes of participation in interprofessional education utilizing a problem-based learning experience. The Readiness for Interprofessional Learning Scale (RIPLS) survey tool and two researcher-developed surveys were used for data collection. The findings revealed (1) an overwhelming majority of nursing and HIM students welcomed the opportunity to engage in IPEC, (2) an increased positive perception of collaborating with members representing other professions, (3) shared mutual appreciation and respect for the respective professions, and (4) an understanding of the importance of interprofessional collaboration in the healthcare related disciplines as an IPEC partnership resource, and (2) offers insight to identifying innovative collaborative partnership resources as well as creative opportunities to implement IPEC.

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