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Interprofessional Education for Medical and Physical Therapy Year 1 Students, Case study: Tracheostomy Simulation on Cadavers mutual Lab Session

Dr. Julia Wimmers-Klick

University of Northern British Columbia, , Canada

Background/Setting: Available evidence has shown that interprofessional education is highly valuable to improving students interprofessional skills, but we do not know if it also enhances clinical skills and confidence in a simulated setting. The tracheostomy simulation on cadavers lab session is one of the projects envisioned under the umbrella of our longitudinal interprofessional health care education project aimed at optimizing strategies for delivering interprofessional learning experiences, enhancing effective professional collaboration, decrease existing interprofessional stereotypes, while building clinical skills for Undergraduate Medical and Master of Physical Therapy Students of the University of British Columbia, Canada. Simulation-based training has allowed healthcare students and trainees to acquire procedural skills in a safe, risk-free learning environment preparing them for emergency situations and other real-life situations.

Objectives: The objectives of this study were to assess skills and confidence outcome of students who learnt tracheostomy and to validate building up interprofessional team skills for year 1 students within the Faculty of Medicine.

Methods: Qualitative data collection through observation and interviews with the lab session instructors and students from both programs. Qualitative data analysis and triangulation.

Results: Compared to baseline the students gained confidence and skills which were effectively transferred to the cadaveric models. Students appreciated hands-on team-building sessions.

Conclusion: These findings validate the use of cadaver simulation early on in medical and physiotherapy education as a clinical training medium and support its interprofessional connectedness.

Biography

Julia Wimmers-Klick, completed her medical studies at the University Innsbruck, Austria, acquired her Doctor Medicinae Universae in 1995, continued her training as a Head-Neck surgeon/ENT physician, and practiced in Otorhinolaryngology at the University Hospital in Innsbruck for over a decade. In this earlier career stage, she presented at various international conferences about innovative pediatric ENT surgery methods.

In 2015, she joined the Faculty of Medicine, Northern Medical Program, University of British Columbia, Canada, focusing on teaching medical students across the curriculum combined with her research emphasis on inter-professional health care pedagogy. She is the Regional Director of Faculty Development and the Portfolio Site Lead.

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julia.wimmers-klick@unbc.ca