

Enhancing Clinical Simulation

School of Nursing

Christine M. Wilson, B.S.N., M.S.N.

900 Viterbo Dr., La Crosse, WI 54601 Email: cmwilson@viterbo.edu

Enhancing Clinical Simulation Brophy School of Nursing

Viterbo University

Christine M. Wilson

Why Clinical Simulation?

- Availability clinical sites declining
- Increasing enrollments
- Lower equipment costs
- Evidence-based practice
- Complex clinical environment
- Patient Safety Issues

Implementation

Usage past

- Junior level
 - Group 6
 - 5 hours/16 weeks
 - Skill instruction
- Senior level
 - Group 8-10
 - 2 hours/16 weeks
 - Introduction to cardiac arrest situation--observational

Usage now

- Junior Level
 - Group 6
 - 16 hours/16 weeks
 - Skill instruction
- Senior Level
 - Group 3-4
 - 8 hours/16 weeks
 - Engagement in cardiac arrest situation—active involvement

Simulation Conferences

- 2006 Clinical Simulation in Nursing: The Essential Experience
 - Western Technical College/Viterbo University
- 2006 Somewhere Over the Rainbow: The Wonderful Land of Simulation in Nursing Education
 - Chippewa Valley Technical College
- 2007 Stepping Up to Clinical Simulation
 - American Association of Colleges of Nursing

Benefits

Net Generation

- Prefer teamwork
- Goal oriented
- Multi-tasking
- Experiential activities
- Structure
- Use of technology
- Collaborative care

Clinical simulation

- Active learning
- Problem centered
- Learner control
- Authentic experiences
- Specific scenarios
- Computer/monitors
- Immediate feedback

Thoughts for the Future

- Spring 2008 – Sophomore level
 - Skills assessment prior to clinical experience
- Fall 2008—Junior level
 - Scenario-driven skills assessment mid/final term
- Fall 2008—Senior level
 - Weekly post-conference instruction
- Engagement rare clinical events or unusual complications
- Incorporate throughout nursing curriculum
- Substitution for clinical experiences

Clinical Simulation

- Imitates the behavior of a situation by creating another comparable situation
- Replicates nearly all of the essential aspects of a clinical situation so that it may be more readily understood and managed in real clinical practice

Challenges

- Cost
- Faculty workload/effort
- Space
- Limited group size
- Limited research on efficacy in education
- Re-thinking curriculum

