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International collaboration to improve quality and safety in nursing education

Statement of the Problem: The challenges related to patient safety in healthcare are global problems with potential negative outcomes for patients around the world.

Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: In 2017, a global nursing consortium within the framework of the International Network of Universities assembled faculty and 21 undergraduate and graduate nursing students at Hiroshima University in Japan. They sought to improve international nursing education on quality and patient safety using the Quality and Safety Education in Nursing (QSEN) competencies as a theoretical foundation. Didactic and clinical experiences at the 9-day workshop focused on developing patient safety champions of student attendees and supporting faculty as they developed expertise in teaching strategies. The workshop content was taught by expert faculty and included visits to community healthcare sites across the spectrum of care and an examination of safety in the Japanese automotive and healthcare systems. Teaching strategies focused on engaged learning principles using a deep review of a clinical case study, high fidelity simulation, team based learning and presentations. A pre-post mixed method design was used to measure students' perceptions of patient safety competence through the health patient safety survey and daily reflective journaling. A paired t-test was used to evaluate whether a statically significant difference existed between the mean questions associated with student confidence levels surrounding safe practice before and after the workshop intervention. Significance was set at 0.05.

Findings: The results of the paired t-test were significant with 26 out of 30 questions resulting in a p value <.05. Student reflections in their journals indicated a transformative learning experience and a deep commitment to impacting patient safety wherever they choose to practice.

Conclusion & Significance: This workshop experience improved patient safety competence in global nursing student representatives and developed champions prepared to improve patient safety throughout the world.

Biography

Julie Sanford completed her DNS in 2002 from Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center. Currently, she is a Professor and Director of the School of Nursing at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia and has over 30 years of academic nursing experience. In 2017, she was inducted into the American Academy of Nursing. She has worked tirelessly to increase access to higher education for educationally disadvantaged and rural nursing students. Her research interests include patient safety, informal caregiving and the scholarship of teaching and learning. She holds multiple offices in nursing leadership and has published and presented extensively.

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