INTRODUCTION

Playing with Dolls: Recent Graduates’ Perspective on the Efficacy of Nursing Simulation Laboratory Experiences

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METHODS

Preparation for Nursing Tasks

Simulation Laboratory practice was good preparation for nursing tasks.

• Overall, I did learn a lot of my skills in simulation labs.
  “Every time is patient goes bad I think, okay, what did we do... okay, I can totally do this.”
• I think that would have been more valuable
  “It helps you to communicate and learn what to say to each other.”
• I felt like it gave me a lot of practice on how to call doctors
  “I think the only thing is, I’m not as comfortable calling doctors as I’d like.”
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  “Unfortunately I work in psych right now and it’s really just learning
  in the lab”
• I think that would have been more valuable
  “I think the only thing is, I’m not as comfortable calling doctors as I’d like.”

RESULTS

Environmental and technical factors

Environmental and technical factors such as equipment working and video taping were the most frequently mentioned theme.

• I feel like the most valuable piece of simulation was being able to reflect on what we were doing. So, being able to say, hold on a second, go back, let’s do this again... I liked that.
• It’s a lot more intimidating in real life than it is in there
  “In simulation, there are too many people, that’s why you’re more comfortable doing it.”
• The equipment needs to work
  “Video taping and reviewing in class” was viewed as most important by one participant.
• It needs to be more educational and have within scenarios
  “Sometimes I thought they were kind of boring if you weren’t the one participating.”

• A lot of people weren’t taking it completely serious... they’d say, hold on one second, go back, let’s do this again... I liked that.
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Communication

Communication was an issue that was presented as a problem in the simulation environment when trying to communicate with the manikin. It was also mentioned about things that you might not have thought about

• Human Factors
  “Preparation for Nursing Tasks

It is recommended that administrators, faculty and other stakeholders recognize the importance of providing simulation experiences that contain the elements identified as valuable by recent graduates of RN programs. These recent graduates are in a position of recently applying the lessons learned from simulation and their perspective has merit. If the goal of simulation is to prepare students for practice in the real world, more research is needed on the efficacy of simulation.

REFERENCES


ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This work was completed during the doctoral process of Walden University.

A research Grant was received from Sigma Theta Tau International, Nu/Ku Chapter.

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