ABC's of Quality and Safety Based Practice Education in Gerontological Nursing

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Goals of this Presentation

Advance nursing clinical education and patient care.

Add to nursing research on the ABCDE pedagogy.

Addressing Challenges in Clinical Education

- Education continues to transform.
- Need innovative methods for clinical learning.
- Too few faculty.
- Too little time.
- Cut and paste care plans.
- Short clinical rotations with little evaluation time.

What We Need

- Emphasis on developing and then enhancing critical thinking skills along with the application of the nursing process at the bedside.
- Interdisciplinary.
- Opportunity for self-directed learning.
- Student investigation and presentation of findings, accountability and responsibility.

What We Need

- Process where students are more engaged and better demonstrate knowledge gained.
- Process to radically expand the nursing process, while enhancing communication between health care professionals with common terminology.

Methods

Undergraduate BSN students (N=66, 33 juniors and 33 seniors) enrolled in a gerontological nursing course (2009-2010):

- Selected diseases or conditions related to their assigned home visit residents,
- Prepared the ABCDE's,
- Presented to peers and faculty.

Methods

- ▶ Students (N=66) rated the use of the ABCDE approach.
- Self-developed, 15-item tool with a Likert scale (0=poor through 10=excellent).
- Tool used to indicate students' critical thinking abilities on 15 statements related to their progress.

Findings

The process facilitated:

- clinical discussions,
- synthesis and sharing of knowledge, and

 consideration for patient-specific care leading to quality and safety associated with care.

Comparison Between Groups

There was a difference between junior students' (n=33) self-rating of critical thinking with a positive correlation coefficient of 0.618, p=0.0002; seniors (n=33) [r=0.21, p=0.196].

For seniors, learning had already been developed and now needed to be enhanced

Correlation Coefficient

▶ For juniors and seniors combined (N=65) relative to complex cognitive tasks, that involve mapping operations and clinical reasoning, the correlation coefficient was 0.436, p=0.0003, indicating a significant positive correlation.

Cronbach's Coefficient Alpha

▶ For the 15-item tool:

 α 0.94 (juniors=0.96 and seniors=0.92)

Study Outcomes

- Faculty report student increases in patient quality and safety of care.
- ▶ 96% students prefer ABCDE pedagogy to standardized care plans.
- Learning and competence in the clinical practice setting are enhanced.
- NCLEX first time passing rates for the \geq 2009 graduating BSN class remained steady at \geq 96%.

Further Study Outcomes

- Student clinical responses to quality and safety of care reported to be enhanced per faculty.
- ABCDE pedagogy preferred approach to learning by undergraduate students and faculty and adds to the quality and safety of patient care.
- Faculty time saved.

Conclusions

- ▶ The ABCDE pedagogy...
 - meets practice based education goals,
 - is a useful interdisciplinary learning approach, and
 - frees up the faculty for direct student interactions.

Pedagogical Strengths

- Interprofessional communication via standardization, conciseness, objectivity, relevance.
- Applicability in many clinical settings and with many disciplines whether in person or via shared electronic platforms.
- Easier to identify weaker students.
- Liked by students, faculty, preceptors.

Pedagogical Cautions

- Student use of same topic.
- Assessing for complications can be forgotten.
- Time increase for post conference as may need to address corrections with rationale immediately.
- Best care should include consultations.

Further research needed with

Additional and varied clinical areas,

Different programs,

Interdisciplinary teams,

Larger sample, multi-site.

Outcome of this Presentation

As an educator you have another clinical pedagogy to aid in student learning, preceptorship and course evaluation.

Questions?

We are delighted to answer any questions related to this pedagogy.