

# Explore and Experience: Utilizing Virtual Reality to Enhance Assessment Skills

Carol Bruno, DNP, MSN, RN; Shinu Joy, DNP, MSN, RN, NPD-BC, OCN; Bruce Adcock, M.Ed, RRT-NPS, CHSE; Richard Briley, M.Ed.; Kelly Grace, PhD



# **PURPOSE**

Utilize virtual reality for first-semester prelicensure nursing students to improve environmental and patient observational assessment skills and identify issues that could impact patient safety.



### **BACKGROUND**

Virtual reality (VR) is useful for competency-based education activities

VR helps students improve their knowledge and clinical judgment

#### **VR Activity designed to:**

- Safely simulate a hospitalized patient experience
- Provide students opportunity to visualize and identify threats to patient and environment





## **PROCESS**

**Scenario:** Standardized patient in hospital room with threats impacting patient safety

- Faculty collaborated with Instructional Technologists to develop activity
- Activity filmed using 360camera for unobstructed view of patient and room
- Scenario edited to 4 minutes and uploaded to VR platform

360-video VR simulation enables students to be fully immersed





#### **RESULTS**

8 question Likert survey about the benefits of VR technology



2 open-ended questions on suggestions for improvement

>80%

"Strongly
agree"/"agree" the
VR activity was
Useable, Valuable,
Credible, &
Beneficial

94.12%

Want to continue participating in future VR activities

94.12%

Rated experience as "excellent"/"very good"

Qualitative Analysis

determined VR activity
enhanced learning
opportunities and
professional
experiences



## CONCLUSIONS

A variety of teaching techniques help students improve their knowledge and clinical judgment.

Incorporating virtual reality provides students with a safe and immersive environment for learning and preparing for clinical settings.

Virtual reality is useful for developing competency-based education activities, thus improving clinical judgment.



## **LIMITATIONS**

The activity limitations include the large cohort size and the small number of VR headsets available.





"It was an immersive experience without the stress of a real situation"

"It felt real, and utilized real-life scenarios we might come across"

"It gave me an idea on what to ... keep an eye out for inside of a patient's room"