

An Innovative Approach to Using PowerPoint to Facilitate Active Learning in the Classroom for NextGen NCLEX Questions

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Abstract

Background/Introduction

With the new adaptation of the NEXTGEN for the NCLEX focusing on assessing nursing student's critical appraisal, nursing faculty must find innovative ways to support student learning. Innovative utilization of software such as PowerPoint can be used to edify student learners, helping them be successful on NCLEX. Integrating case study models in a theory based environment can provide students with a low stakes, high exposure opportunity to actively learn in a mechanism to support their application of their learning to the NCLEX exam.

Purpose

To implement active learning strategies to support the growth and development of student's critical appraisal by creating real-life scenarios with the creation of Choose Your Own Pathways (CYOP) activities in PowerPoint.

Methods or Processes/Procedures

CYOPs were created using hyperlinks in PowerPoint as an innovated way to allow students to make clinical decisions and experience the outcomes of those clinical decisions in a low-stakes environment. CYOP's allow new NCLEX question types such bow-tie, highlight, multiple response, and drag and drop to be embedded in a clinical scenario based on theoretical application.

Results

Students reported this activity allowed them to "try on the fit". It required them to critically think through the nursing process as opposed to relying predominantly on recall alone. Students were able to take complete control of the care of the client and gain a deeper understanding of how NCLEX questions are applied to case scenarios and to link their critical thinking and understanding to direct client care at the bedside.

Limitations

Many students utilized tablets, PowerPoint was not always available on these devices.

Conclusions/Implications for Practice

Innovative application of easily accessible software such as PowerPoint can be utilized to create integrative case study models such as the CYOP to provide learning centered, low-stakes opportunities to utilize critical appraisal as a preparation for the NCLEX and nursing practice.

Biography

I am a doctoral prepared nurse educator dedicated to the advancement of the nursing profession through quality undergraduate education. I completed my terminal degree in 2020 with a PhD in Education and a specialized focus in learning, instruction, and innovation. I am a sought-out nurse faculty member due to my dedication and passion for student learning. My specific interests are focused on the use of technology and gamification to increase students clinical reasoning. Identifying and supporting new opportunities for nurses as educators is key to the progression of my personal mission as a nurse educator.

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