Using Qualitative Feedback to Adapt a Nursing Communication Simulation for Nursing Students and Novice Nurses

Presented by: Amisha Parekh de Campos, PhD, MPH, RN, CHPN Lauren Boule MSN, RN, NPD-BC Laura Eiss MSN, RN, CNE Valorie MacKenna, PhD, RN, CNE, CHSE



Caring | Innovation | Health Equity

Introduction & Background



Palliative Care

 Lack of training in prelicensure nursing education & professional development

Simulation Based Education (SBE)

• Provides a dynamic, interactive platform for developing critical skills vital in palliative care

Communication

 SBEs used to enhance communication competencies in palliative care

CHATT Simulation

Simulation Design Template

(Jane Franklin) Simulation

Date:
Discipline: Nursing
Expected Simulation Run Time: 10
Location: Middlesex Health Simulati
Laboratory
Today's Date:

File Name: <u>ACR_lane_Franklin</u>. Student Level: Registered Nurses Guided Reflection Time: Twice the amount of time that the simulation runs. Location for Reflection: Middlesex Health Debriefing Room

Brief Description of Client

Name: Jane Franklin

Date of Birth: 6/25/1941

Gender: F Age: 77 Weight: 1051bs Height: 5'2

Race: Caucasian Religion: Catholic

Major Support: Daughter, Emily Support Phone: 860-523-0896

Allergies: Banana- hives

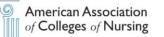
Attending Provider/Team: Dr. Leona Jenkins, hospitalist

Past Medical History: anxiety, arthritis, chronic respiratory failure, COPD, depression, eczema, emphysema, former smoker, history of GI bleed, hyperlipidemia, hypertension, hypothyroidism, lower extremity edema, oxygen-dependent, peptic ulcer disease, pulmonary hypertension, pulmonary andules, shortness of breath

Immunizations: Shingrix, Flu 10/2019

History of Present Illness: 77-year-old female coming from Wellington Park skilled nursing facility with a history listed above, who presented to the emergency department today with reports of having altered menal status and being unresponsive to staff.

The patient was just discharged to Wellangton Park last week after being readmitted for acute on chronic hoppercapaic respiratory finitare due to possible maifunctioning BiPAP. She was stabilized in the hoppinal and was discharged to Wellangton Park on BiPAP at 18.8. According to the daugitter, the did well on discharge and was placed on CPAP for two nights after discharge, but the noted that the patient has been off it into Fiday and the watekend and the warm ture wity. Based on the facility's note, the



HOME | ELNEC | ELNEC FACULTY CORNER

ELNEC Faculty Corner

Welcome Faculty!

Welcome to the ELNEC Faculty Corner!

Located in Resources – Simulation



- Developed with the Jeffries
 Simulation Framework and
 Bandura's Self-Efficacy Study
- Assessed outcomes of changes in self-efficacy, attitudes, & knowledge
- Originally designed and tested on practicing RNs

Pre-licensure Program

Public University - R1 Institution

Traditional Undergraduate Nursing Program

- Enrollment 153 Phase I and 131 Phase II
- INACSL Healthcare Simulation Standards of Best Practice

Hospice/Palliative Care, Patient Centered Care and Effective Communication

o introduced in 3rd year Fundamentals of Nursing course

Reinforced throughout remaining semesters..

Capstone course has option for a Palliative care/Hospice Care clinical experiences

Unfolding Simulation

3rd year Students Phase I

4th year Students Phase II

Pre work/brief – Article review and reflection question

Scenario – Deteriorating COPD

Debrief – Code status vs ACP Post reflection **Pre work** – Communication tools

Scenario – End Stage COPD

Debrief – Resources for RN role in communication, post reflection

Student Outcomes

3rd year Students Phase I

Focused on Code Status Adv directives

• Cuing to get to ACP

Outpatient options

- \circ Home care
- DPH program CODE status
 Communication tools
 - Vital tips app
 - Role model (Living will etc.)

4th year Students Phase II

Use of communication tools Interprofessional collaboration Hospice and Palliative Care roles Guiding a family meeting Acknowledging the emotions and tips/tools for supporting patients/families "Would you be comfortable having an advance care planning conversation with a patient?"

Pre Simulation:

Described by students as: daunting, uncomfortable, difficult, and hesitant.

"...I'm realizing that I do not know any of information [on ACP....".

...patients "would not accept my thoughts or suggestions..."

"...stemmed from lack of knowledge about ACP and anxiety about the patient's reaction to the topic.."

Post Simulation:

"... I feel better equipped to have conversations on this topic...".

"...learning how to approach the family in a calm manner and addressing their questions."

"...that their role was to answer questions and be supportive."

"...they felt comfortable, could at least initiate a conversation, or knew they should prepare before having these conversations"

Nurse Residency Program Background:

- Small community hospital in Connecticut.
- 10-20 Residents per cohort
- 6-time Magnet® designation and ANCC PTAP accreditation with distinction.
 - Focus on Best Practice and Outcomes
- Partner with Vizient/ANCC Nurse Residency Program™.
 - Alignment with healthcare standards, especially in end-of-life care.
 - New grads struggle with end-of-life care.
 - Difficulty providing compassionate, competent care. ICONN | school of NURSING



Participation:

- 28 nurse residents completed ACP simulation.
- 14 residents per class over two years.
- Fewer participants than pre-licensure program but meaningful insights.

Structure:

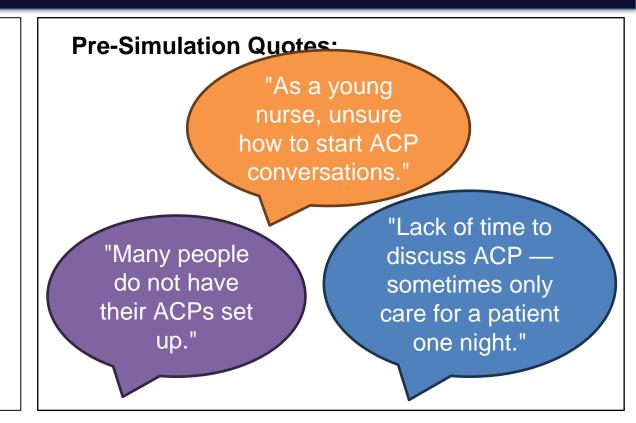
- Whitehead article (2018) as pre-work.
- Pre- and post-reflections on ACP conversations.
- Facilitator reviewed palliative care concepts (less detail than for pre-licensure students).
- Participation in the ACP Simulation with debrief





Pre-Simulation Reflections:

- Greater exposure to ACP than expected.
- Barriers identified:
 - Lack of ACP setup
 - Time constraints
 - Limited nurse experience



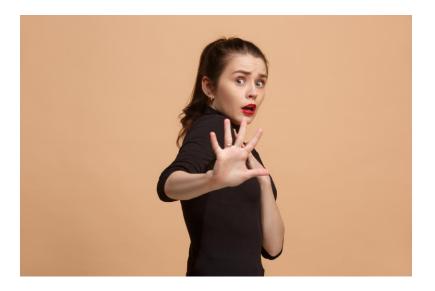
Post-Simulation Reflections:

- Increased awareness of sensitive communication
- Key skills:
 - Create a calming environment
 - Ensure patient understanding of disease and treatments



Clinical Implications

We avoid what we don't know or feel comfortable about



Palliative care simulations gives students the opportunity to learn about the nurse's role in death and dying



Clinical Implications

RNs can provide care without passing the responsibility to a provider or social work



Clinical Implications

Practice, practice, practice





Questions?



References

- 1. Durojaiye A, Ryan R, Doody O. Student nurse education and preparation for palliative care: A scoping review. PLoS One. 2023;18(7):e0286678. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0286678
- 2. Arora S, Ashrafian H, Davis R, Athanasiou T, Darzi A, Sevdalis N. Simulation-based education and training in palliative care: A systematic review. J Palliat Med. 2020;23(2):177-188.
- 3. Gillan PC, van der Riet P, Jeong S. End-of-life simulation: Impact on nursing students' empathy and attitudes. Nurse Educ Today. 2020;85:104287.
- 4. Gillett K, O'Mara L, Biro MA. Enhancing non-verbal communication skills in palliative care through simulation: An integrative review. Nurse Educ Pract. 2021;54:103095.
- 5. Kirkpatrick AJ, Cantrell MA, Smeltzer SC. The effect of palliative care simulation on nursing students' empathy: A randomized controlled trial. Nurs Educ Perspect. 2019;40(3):174-179.
- 6. Beck SJ, Hewitt J, Gillan PC. Simulations in palliative care: Addressing the emotional and clinical preparedness of nursing students. Nurse Educ Today. 2020;85:104266.
- 7. Lemos D, Cardoso A, Silva M. Challenges in implementing palliative care communication simulations in nursing education: A crosssectional study. Nurse Educ Today. 2021;99:104776.
- 8. Crosby R, Baillie L, Gillan PC, Johnston B. Palliative care simulation in undergraduate nursing education: A review of the literature. Nurse Educ Today. 2020;93:104535.
- 9. Parekh de Campos A, Polifroni EC. Development of a standardized simulation: Advance care planning conversations for nurses. Nurs Res. 2023;72(1):74-80. doi:10.1097/NNR.00000000000625

References (cont.)

- 10. Jeffries PR. The NLN Jeffries Simulation Theory. Wolters Kluwer; 2022.
- 11. Bandura A. Self-efficacy: Toward a unifying theory of behavioral change. Psychol Rev. 1977;84(2):191-215.
- 12. INACSL Standards Committee. Healthcare Simulation Standards of Best Practice®. Clin Simul Nurs. 2021. doi:10.1016/j.ecns.2021.08.018
- 13. Whitehead P, Frechman E, Johnstone-Perry M, et al. A scoping review of nurse-led advance care planning. Nurs Outlook. 2022;70(1):96-118.
- 14. American Association of Colleges of Nursing. Vizient/AACN Nurse Residency Program. AACN. https://www.aacnnursing.org/ourinitiatives/education-practice/nurse-residency-program. Accessed April 22, 2025.
- 15. Wang Y. Nursing students' experiences of caring for dying patients and their families: a systematic review and meta-synthesis. Front Nurs. 2019;4:261-272.
- 16. Ferguson R, Cosby P. Nursing students' attitudes and experiences toward end-of-life care: a mixed methods study using simulation. Clin Simul Nurs. 2017;13(7):343–351. doi:10.1016/j.ecns.2017.03.006
- 17. Lee AYS, Carlon B, Ramsay R, Thirukkumaran T. Integrating exposure to palliative care in an undergraduate medical curriculum: student perspectives and strategies. Int J Med Educ. 2017;8:151–152. doi:10.5116/ijme.58cc.500c
- 18. Muller M, Jürgens J, Redaelli M, Klingberg K, Hautz WE, Stock S. Impact of the communication and patient hand-off tool SBAR on patient safety: A systematic review. BMJ Open. 2018;8(8):e022202. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2018-022202



References (cont.)

- 19. Dodson TM, Reed JM, Cleveland K. Exploring undergraduate nursing students' ineffective communication behaviors in simulation: a thematic analysis. Teach Learn Nurs. 2023;18(4):460–466. doi:10.1016/j.teln.2023.06.019
- 20. Gordon C, Buckley T. Curriculum integration of simulation. In: Gordon C, Buckley T, eds. The Nurse Educators' Guide to Simulation-Based Education. Chapter 1. Pressbooks; 2022. https://oer.pressbooks.pub/simulation-education-resources/chapter/chapter-1/
- 21. Kiluk BD, Carroll KM, Duhig A, et al. Measures of outcome for stimulant trials: ACTTION recommendations and research agenda. Drug Alcohol Depend. 2016;158:1-7. doi:10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2015.11.004

