Non-traditional, Community-based Clinical Activity to Broaden Nursing Student Awareness of the Complexity of Disease Management for Individuals with Chronic Illness

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Heart #1 Cause of Death in the U.S.

> Nearly half of all U.S. adults have some type of cardiovascular disease

Heart failure DIABETES 30.3 million people

1 in 4 are unaware they have diabetes Worldwide

1 in 3 adults has high blood pressure

COPD Asthma

Strain on Healthcare Expenses



Exceeds TRILLIONS of dollars ANNUALLY



Rand Report 2017

Out-of-Pocket Costs



Baccalaureate Nursing Students

Majority are under the age of 30

Unlikely to have a personal experience with chronic illness management

- Courses integrated into the clinical course
 - Pharmacology
 - Healthcare Communications
 - Evidence-based Practice and Informatics
 - Aging, Chronicity, and Care Coordination

NURS 2315 Integrated Clinical II

Typical Clinical Sites

Community & Primary Care Settings

- Haven for Hope (homeless shelter)
- Head-Start Schools (lead testing)
- FQHC (home visits with clients managing chronic illness)

Long-Term Acute Care Settings

- Memory care
- Assisted care
- Post-acute long-term complex care

Clinical Simulation

- Primary Care
- Disaster (Emergency shelter, Alzheimer's unit, & home setting)

Changing our thinking...

How to impart **understanding** of the complexity of chronic illness self-management to young adults??

Can a clinical experience in a community retail setting have value?

What would that clinical look like?

Do we have to maintain control of the setting?

Knowledge





Attitudes

Application Create Reality

- Four different clients created in the EHR used by our institution
 - All had more than one chronic illness; all adults
 - Variety of income sources: working, retired, undocumented / immigrant
 - Various payor sources: insurance, Medicare, cash-only (no insurance)
- Charts were outpatient encounters only
- All clients needed education regarding recommended dietary modifications, medications, use of DME, etc. from the RN
- Each clinical group was assigned one client to use as their focus on the community retail setting



Mechanics: Start of Day (1.5 hrs)



Mechanics: Clinical Experience (4 hrs)

Mechanics: Debrief (1.5 hrs)



All groups returned to the school for debrief



Immediately upon return

Used white boards to write data for comparison

Documented client teaching in the EHR



Debrief

Facilitated by clinical faculty

Initial reactions

What went well / what did not

Findings, discoveries, comparisons, meanings

Application to client encounters from the past

Application to future practice

Take Aways / Lessons Learned

Future Plans

References

