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Incorporating High-Fidelty Patient Simulation in Nursing Education: Faculty Perceptions of their Support Needs

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Nurse educators are at the forefront of preparing the professional nurse working force of tomorrow. One teaching tool increasingly used across the nation in baccalaureate education is high-fidelity patient (HPS) simulation. The availability of HPS contrasted with a pervasive under-utilization of this invaluable tool is an enigma explored by this research. Critical issues perceived by nurse educators as barriers to the use of HPS emerged through analysis of nurse educators' perceptions, views and opinions, as well as how perceived barriers are prioritized in the collective nurse educators' subjective view. The research consisted of a mixed quantitative and qualitative design approach and utilized a purposive sample of nurse educator faculty. Faculty of nine undergraduate baccalaureate programs of nursing and consenting members of the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning participated in the research. Analysis and conclusions drawn from the collected data provided insight into factors, which serve as barriers to optimal use of HPS. Positioned at the forefront of the values expressed by nurse educators is the need for more time to prepare and integrate HPS in course structures, dedicated simulation faculty, technical support, buy-in expressed concretely by administration and peers, as well as the need for faculty training. Data drawn from the purposive sample can serve as a foundation for future program and faculty development tailored to nurse educators' expressed needs.

Biography:

Margaret Clifton is an educator and Simulation expert currently lecturing as part of the faculty of the Department of Nursing at Lehman College of the City University of New York. Dr. Clifton has worked in various professional roles throughout her nursing career in New York City which spans more than three decades. Dr. Clifton's most recent professional activities have included several years as the Director of Nursing Patient Simulation at Downstate Medical Center. Currently Dr. Clifton uses her expertise in the use of the tool of Patient Simulation to instruct nursing students across the curriculum at Lehman College.