

Interprofessional Education: Building Partnerships and Breaking Barriers

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Purpose

- ❖ Identify ways interdepartmental and interagency partnerships can effectively utilize healthcare professionals to improve collaboration and interprofessional education (IPE).

Organizational Viewpoints on IPE

- ❖ WHO regards IPE as important in improving patient outcomes.
- ❖ IOM encourages interdisciplinary communication among healthcare professionals.
- ❖ Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing has added the competency of IPE to schools of nursing to build a safer and more patient-centered care.
- ❖ Center of Medicaid Services promotes initiatives such as IPE and collaboration among disciplines to improve quality and efficiency of care.

"Interprofessional education (IPE) occurs when two or more professions learn about, from and with each other to enable effective collaboration and improve health outcomes" (WHO, 1998).

Review of Literature

- ❖ Workshops among medical students, nursing students, and pharmacy students have shown importance of communication and collaboration among disciplines (67% participants agreed pre and post)
- ❖ Simulation experiences among nursing students and medical students have been effective in learning from other disciplines.
- ❖ Simulation usage between academia and hospitals enhance student experiences
- ❖ Working with other disciplines to examine, diagnose, and develop plans improves confidence and communication
- ❖ Healthcare theatre combines students from various disciplines (science and art) to concurrently learn about their field and gain an appreciation for others'.



IPE in Action

- ❖ Collaboration with the local medical college
- ❖ Collaboration with other disciplines at local community colleges (Emergency Medical Technicians, Respiratory Therapy, 2 year Registered Nurses)
- ❖ Simulation experiences at healthcare facilities with faculty and employees
- ❖ Research projects at settings that require interprofessional collaboration (churches, schools)
- ❖ Incorporation of content that requires interprofessional collaboration (nutrition)

Barriers

- ❖ Preconceived ideas about other disciplines
- ❖ Incorporating more seasoned nurses in the IPE
- ❖ Incorporating nursing faculty to work with other disciplines and agencies
- ❖ "Turf" issues
- ❖ Proximity of facilities
- ❖ Perceived cost