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Consortium Collaboration for Success with Computer-Based Clinical Simulation: Making a Checklist

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Introduction
The New Mexico Nursing Education Consortium (NMNEC “nem-nek”) is a collaborative of 12 state- or tribal-funded nursing programs in 16 locations across the state with a common pre-licensure RN nursing curriculum that supports multiple pathways into nursing.

Need
With immediate change to fully clinical online teaching in 2020 spring semester, consistency of approach and guidelines for computer-based clinical simulation (commonly referred to as virtual simulation) activities that meet:
- Program and course objectives
- State board of nursing requirements
- Simulation and accreditation standards

Challenges:
Faculty in each and all programs busy with immediate conversion to online learning and without time to discuss and research solutions.

Solution
- Collaboration through weekly NMNEC Program Director meetings
- NMNEC Outreach Program Manager (NMNEC faculty support) researching ‘virtual’ simulation, viewing webinars, reviewing simulation standards and state board of nursing regulations
- Brainstorming definition, goals, and requirements for computer-based clinical simulations
- Development of Key Components of Computer-Based Clinical Simulation (CBCS) in Place of Clinical/Simulation document and corresponding checklist
- Utilization of checklist across NMNEC programs

Entire process occurred over ten-day period in April 2020

Conclusions and Implications
- Having a consortium of nursing programs working together along with a faculty person dedicated working with faculty across programs on maintaining curricular integrity, provides a structure that was able to respond nimbly to a crisis.
- Having components of computer-based clinical simulation defined along with a checklist, in turn, helps faculty maintain quality of clinical education and assurance that state board of nursing regulations and accreditation standards are still met during chaotic times.

Key Components of Computer-Based Clinical Simulation (CBCS) in Place of Clinical/Simulation

Definition
Computer-Based (Clinical) Simulation [CBCS]: A simulation-based learning activity designed to provide an experience through the use of an alternative medium. Learners can complete specific tasks in a variety of potential environments, use information to provide assessment and care, make clinical decisions, and observe the results in action. Feedback can be provided during and after the interaction.


Overall goals for Computer-Based Clinical Simulation
- Faculty is moving the student to new ways of thinking and to clinically problem-solve
- Faculty is facilitating the student to meet the course/level objectives and competencies
- Faculty are meeting simulation, accreditation, and state board of nursing standards.

Requirements
- Clear expectations (student learning objectives) for the computer-based clinical simulation
  - Facilitate clinical decision making/clinical judgment
  - Align with meeting a course/level objective and competency
  - Align with curricular concepts
- Pre-briefing activity (synchronous or asynchronous)
- Computer-based clinical simulation
- Faculty facilitated debriefing (synchronous)
  - Faculty engagement with students to know what the students understand and don't understand as a result of the computer-based clinical simulation
- Evaluation of student (Use of Formative or Summative Clinical Evaluation tools recommended)
- Evaluation of the computer-based clinical simulation
Link to **NMNEC Computer-Based Clinical Simulation Key Components.Checklist** document. Note the checklist template is specific to the NMNEC statewide pre-licensure RN curriculum.

**NMNEC Computer-Based Clinical Simulation Key Components.Checklist**

### Computer-Based Clinical Simulation References


- State of New Mexico, Title 16 Occupational and Professional Licensing; Chapter 12 Nursing and Health Care Related Providers; Part 03 Nursing Educational Programs. [https://nmbon.sks.com/rules-regulations.aspx](https://nmbon.sks.com/rules-regulations.aspx)