The Impact of Virtual Simulations on Undergraduate Nursing Student Success in Managing Patient Care

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Patient encounters are instrumental in nursing education to integrate didactic learning and core client needs evaluated on standardized examinations, including the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN®). However, the COVID-19 pandemic limited the opportunity for inpatient and outpatient clinical experiences.

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<tr>
<th>GOALS OF VIRTUAL NURSING SIMULATIONS</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Provides innovative replacement activities due to limited clinical access</td>
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<td>• Presents realistic learning experiences with instant gratification</td>
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<td>• Improves critical thinking skills and clinical decision making</td>
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<td>• Ensures a standardized clinical experience chosen for regional importance</td>
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### IMPLEMENTATION

- Replaces 33% (32 hours) of nursing clinical hours with virtual simulation
- Simulations focus on medical-surgical case scenarios (i.e. diabetes, COPD)
- Highlights professional competencies on the NCLEX-RN® including:
  - Management of Care
  - Health Promotion and Maintenance
  - Psychosocial Integrity
  - Physiological Integrity

### OUTCOMES

- 8.5% increase on the HESI Management standardized exam
- Increased mean score 21 points over the National HESI Average

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Evaluate nursing students’ experience and satisfaction with virtual simulation
- Evaluate if a correlation exist to first-time NCLEX pass rates