

Nursing Innovation: The Steps to Full Practice Licensure

Background/local problem

With the inception of the Affordable Care Act in 2010 the healthcare system was challenged to be efficient, effective, and patient centered. This transformation has challenged the nursing profession to work to the highest level of the nursing licensure. Nurses hold the distinction of being the largest profession working in healthcare, providing not only much of the direct patient care but also leadership. The Institute of Medicine 2010 *The Future of Nursing Report* called for nurses to reach for higher education and to become collaborative leaders in implementing change in the healthcare arena. Diabetes is a complex and expensive clinical problem, that requires nursing leadership to create innovations to efficiently and effectively meet patient needs. The purpose of this presentation is to provide an exemplar project that illustrates an advanced practice nurse utilizing research, theory and practice to create a quality improvement project and thus practice to the fullest extent of the nursing licensure to solve a local problem of ineffective diabetic education. Lessons learned and evidence that supports an innovative video diabetic educational program will be discussed to enable others to peruse similar work and/or similar process.

Methods

After observing and validating a clinical problem, related theories and research were evaluated to create an intervention aimed at improving healthcare quality. Garrand's Matrix Method was used to guide a search of the literature. A database search resulted in 1219 articles for a preliminary review with 12 articles found to be specific to video education and diabetes. Within these articles themes were identified and a quality improvement project using the plan, do, study, act process was planned.

Interventions

This presentation will discuss 1) the research process including: formation of clinical questioning, PICO formulation, searching for the best evidence, and translating evidence into practice using theory and 2) evidence guiding a quality improvement project for individuals with Type II diabetes in a primary care setting. The broad focus is on utilization of technology to improve the knowledge of individuals with Type II diabetes.

Conclusion/Implications

This presentation will help nurses formulate clinical questions and proceed to quality improvement projects. It will highlight the leadership that is available in nursing profession and serve as an example of how nursing knowledge is generating practice improvements and thus provide an example of working at the fullest extent of the nursing license to create solutions to local problem.