

TeamSTEPPS: Radiologic Sciences Students' Perspective

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Purpose:

Team Strategies and Tools to Enhance Performance and Patient Safety (TeamSTEPPS) provides participants with a simulated interprofessional education experience. TeamSTEPPS focuses on skills that support teamwork performance and communication principles with the goal of improving quality and patient safety.

Background:

Thomas Jefferson University is a leader in providing its students with interprofessional training and education opportunities. Students in the Department of Radiologic Sciences, Jefferson School of Health Professions (JSHP), participate in interprofessional education sessions with other health professional disciplines including nursing and bioscience technology. For the past two years, radiologic sciences students have participated in the TeamSTEPPS program. The simulated case scenarios provided an opportunity for multiple medical and healthcare professional disciplines to participate.

Description of program:

Student representatives from various medical and health professional programs at Thomas Jefferson University participated in TeamSTEPPS in the Spring of 2013 and the Spring of 2014. During the TeamSTEPPS program, students participated in the simulated case scenarios and provided feedback in the debriefing session.

Results:

Feedback from the radiologic sciences students was positive and insightful. Radiologic science students were proud to be a valued member of the team. In a literature review of radiologic science participation in interprofessional education activities, there appears to be a want and need for radiologic science inclusion in both interprofessional education and the interprofessional healthcare delivery.

Conclusion:

Radiologic sciences students express a want and need for continued participation in interprofessional education and training opportunities including TeamSTEPPS.

Relevance to Interprofessional Education and Practice:

Interprofessional education and training provides healthcare professionals with effective collaborative working skills and knowledge to improve patient outcomes, patient safety, teamwork and communication among healthcare professionals.

At the conclusion of this session participants will be able to:

1. Discuss the importance of interprofessional education and training.
2. Identify the role radiologic science professionals have in the interprofessional team.