Team-based Learning in Online Nursing Education: An Innovation in Curriculum Development

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Team-Based Learning (TBL) Principles
- Multi-phase pedagogical approach that helps students see the value of a team approach to complex problems
- Requires active student participation
- Individual Readiness Assurance Test (IRAT) ensures student accountability
- Group Readiness Assurance Test (GRAT) promotes learning and team development
- Team Discussion Activities provide opportunities to apply learned concepts
- Peer evaluation process promotes accountability to group members

Undergraduate Research Course Design
- Revision of current research course to TBL format
- Creation of IRAT/GRATs
- Team Discussion Activities
- Peer Evaluation Instructions
- Paper assignment – Research Article Critique

Challenges
- Technical issues related to online platform
- Peer evaluation process
- Inability to adhere to 4th “S” (simultaneous reporting) in an asynchronous platform

Implications
- TBL is an innovative teaching strategy that develops clinical reasoning and collaborative skills
- Incorporating TBL into online nursing education enhances learning through increased engagement and communication
- Peer evaluation process provides greater insight regarding online students
- TBL in online nursing education may segue to improved critical thinking and higher quality nursing care

The 4 “S”s
- Significant to the student
- Same problem for all students
- Specific choice
- Simultaneous reporting

Course Implementation
- In-depth explanation of TBL principles
- Faculty-assigned teams
- Deadlines strictly enforced

Results
- TBL viewed positively by students
- GRAT scores > IRAT scores
- Improved student engagement and communication
- Increased student accountability
- Higher quality research critique assignment
- Enhanced self-directed learning as evidenced by worksheets and team discussion activities

References