Interprofessional Education

Kentucky and Virginia Education Collaborative

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In November 2012, the Division of Nursing and KY College of Osteopathic Medicine at UPIKE developed an IPE workgroup aimed at structuring collaborative learning activities for students. Since that time, the interprofessional collaboration initiative has expanded to include the disciplines of pharmacy, optometry and social work. Results have been positive. Students practice communication skills and learn the roles of disciplines other than their own. Faculty share curriculum pearls for teaching quality care.

Values/Ethics for Interprofessional Practice:
- Work with individuals from other professions to maintain a climate of mutual respect and shared values.

Roles/Responsibilities:
- Use knowledge of one’s own role and those of other professions
- Interprofessional Communication: Communicate in a responsive and responsible manner

Teams and Teamwork:
- Apply relationship-building values and the principles of team dynamics

Objectives

Methods

- Our IPE teams meet face to face in the Fall and Spring.
- Teams are created from various disciplines including student physicians, student nurses, student pharmacists, and student social workers. Teams are presented with a case and are responsible for providing a final plan of care for the patient described in the case.
- Case studies are created collaboratively among the disciplines.
- Faculty from the various disciplines serve as facilitators. Facilitators are assigned to each team and are provided with training immediately prior to the IPE.

Survey Findings

The Kentucky, Virginia Education Collaborative Project has provided a successful way for nursing, medical, pharmacy and social work students to learn collaboration skills with, and from each other in order to provide optimal care and improve patient outcomes. Future endeavors include participation with Kentucky College of Optometry.

Implications for Interprofessional Education

"Experience is the best teacher. I believe this should be done again during rotations for all students again to see how much true knowledge they acquire."

"This was a great learning opportunity. It was good to work with other professions to solve a..."