InterProfessional Education Using Active-Learning Methods and TeamSTEPPS Knowledge

Georgia L. Narsavage, PhD, APRN, FAAN1; Ralph Utzman, PhD, DPT2; Travis White, PharmD3; Charles Coole, BA1 West Virginia University Health Sciences Center Office of IPE and School of Nursing, 2 WVU School of Medicine Division of Physical Therapy Health; 3 WVU School of Pharmacy

INTRODUCTION

Interprofessional Education (IPE) involves students from two or more professions learning from, about and with each other. AIMS: To prepare healthcare students to provide safe, quality care, an “Active learning” student-centered approach involved more than 500 students in teams from 8 different professions (Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Nursing, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Exercise Physiology, and Med Lab Science) to develop teamwork and communication skills.

METHODS AND MATERIALS

Thirty faculty from healthcare professions acted as facilitators to encourage problem solving, cooperative learning, and discussion. Teamwork is an IPE competency needed for safe, quality care. An example of a team-building activity in 2016 was to build a “house of cards” with each player able to use only one hand, first with no communication allowed, and repeated using TeamSTEPPS (http://www.teamsteppsportal.org/) skills to plan (Brief), monitor (Huddle), and debrief.

RESULTS

Teamwork skills developed rapidly in an hour, card houses became more complex and larger with communication. Illustrative samples and student reports of lessons learned:

“Good teamwork involves respect, communication and role delineation.”
“Everyone has a different skill set we need to rely on each other.”
“Teams play to each other’s strengths culminating in a successful outcome; debrief to improve weaknesses.”
“Teamwork is like a house of cards, if one person is out of sync it all falls apart.”

Outcomes by profession are illustrated from 2014-15 in tables on two statements.

CONCLUSIONS

Teamwork student session changed

2014 Move from larger lecture to smaller activity rooms
2015

IPE at WVU health sciences center has changed students’ communication ability, understanding and values. IPE lays a foundation for team-based healthcare services to provide patient-centered quality care.