

A framework for the integration of patient safety education into the basic nursing curricula at a public college in South Africa

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Abstract

Background: Despite desperate measures undertaken to ensure that the workforce is highly competent in ensuring patient safety, the clinical competence of registered nurses (RNs), particularly newly qualified registered nurses (NQRNs) remain a global challenge. Unsafe care leads to loss of trust in the healthcare system and a decrease in the perceived reputation and credibility in health service. Educating nurses on patient safety is important, as they are the backbone of the healthcare system and are at the forefront of patient care. However, adequately preparing nursing students with the necessary patient safety competencies require knowledgeable nurse educators about patient safety content and multiple teaching and learning strategies on the delivery of education. .

Objectives: This study is conducted in three phases. Phase one explored and described how nursing students, NQRNs and nurse educators perceive and understand patient safety education to contribute to the preparation of nurses to deliver safe patient care. Phase two systematically reviewed the literature on the content related to patient safety and the teaching and learning strategies required to help students learn about patient safety in undergraduate nursing curricula. Phase three aims to develop a framework for integrating patient safety education into undergraduate nursing curricula.

Methods: Data collection in phase one included semi-structured and focus groups interviews. In phase two, the review followed the Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) methodology for scoping reviews. Data was extracted and synthesised if it described patient safety content and teaching and learning strategies in undergraduate nursing curricula, and subsequent improved nursing students' patient safety competencies.

Significance: Findings from phase one and two are being integrated to inform phase three, the development of a framework for integrating patient safety education into undergraduate nursing curricula.

Keywords: Nursing student, nurse educator, patient safety, patient safety education, undergraduate nursing curricula.