



COVID 19 & Education of Nursing Students: Transitions, Adaptation, Transformation

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(the remarks are the author's and do not represent any official position of AACN or FGCU)



Courses: F2F to Remote Learning

Rapid deployment of courses to online and remote delivery

CHALLENGES

- ▶ Variable application of instructional design due to institutional resources
- ▶ Student and faculty possession of hardware and connectivity from non-academic venues
- ▶ Software selection and purchases in an rushed manner
- ▶ Professional development gaps in faculty and students engaging in the new delivery methods
- ▶ Learning platforms not in place in some institutions to mount courses
- ▶ Regulators (States and accreditors) providing inconsistent guidance



Clinical Site Experiences Vanish

Challenges:

- ▶ Clinical sites prioritize patient care and employee PPE supplies
- ▶ Student and faculty risks and fears in the absence of science and evolution of fears and facts
- ▶ Institutional self protection and risk management
- ▶ On campus simulations lab venues minimal to none
- ▶ Variable depth of remote simulations available immediately to address clinical simulation needs
- ▶ Some simulation software offered as discount or free for limited time
- ▶ Total simulation vs hands on clinical contact: Outcomes for ATIs? Other standardized tests used for progression? NCLEX RN? Certification Exams?
- ▶ Regulators: Conflict



Present State:

- No evidence that schools are concluding spring semester nor offering summer sessions on campus.
- Minimal reopening of clinical site to students and faculty. Simulation continues
- Campus risk management formulations for return to on campus work for faculty, staff and student attendance in early stages of development
- Remote learning continues.
- First graduates during this transitional period will be taking NCLEX-RN and Certification Exams
- Actual enrollments of new students and continuation of current students forecasted to be lower than normal by various surveys
- Institutions still assessing fiscal losses for Spring, scenario building for summer and years out.
- Pipeline of nursing and faculty workforce in jeopardy: will retirements accelerate? Will individuals see this call to action: to pursue or abandon?



Opportunities to Evaluate and Transform

- Natural laboratory for examining outcomes: competencies vs seat time
- Need to strengthen infrastructure for instructional design to be effective and nimble
- Pedagogical evidence more important than ever to determine what works for whom in clinical teaching
- Professional development in creating and using simulations and validation of multiple learning and teaching strategies
- Co-create with other professional clinical disciplines more unified approaches to health professions education
- Investments in software technologies using Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning to deliver education, assessments & measure outcomes
- Clinical residencies for all graduates funded in federal/public and private partnerships



QUESTIONS?

