Quality and safety education for nurses

Health & Medicine, Nursing



Essay: Nursing The main goal for Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN) is in meeting the challenge of making sure that the future nurses are prepared and that they have knowledge, skills and attitudes(KSAs) required to continuously make improvements to the safety and quality of the systems of healthcare in which they work. This paper will focus on six competencies and their respective relevance to new nursing students. The first competency is patient-centred care which assists in the recognition of patient or designee as control source and full partner in provision of coordinated and compassionate care based in respect for patient's values, preferences and needs.

The second competency is that of teamwork and collaboration and its relevance is in the effective functioning within inter-professional teams and nursing, open communication fostering, shared decision making and mutual respect to achieve quality care for patients. The third competency is that of evidence based practice (EBP) which aims at integrating best current evidence with patient/family preferences and values and clinical expertise for delivery of best health care. The fourth competency involves quality improvement (QI) which mostly uses data in monitoring the outcomes of care processes and using improvement methods in designing and testing changes to help in continuous improvement of the quality and safety of the health care systems.

The fifth competency is safety and involves minimization of risk of harm to providers and patients through both individual performance and system effectiveness. The sixth and last competency is informatics and deals with information and technology use in communicating, managing knowledge mitigating error and supporting decision making. Students should be able to explain why technology and information skills are important for patient care that is safe.

References

Kelly P, Vottero A. Christie-McAuliffe C. (2014). Introduction to Quality and Safety Education or Nurses: Core competencies. New York: Springer Publishing Company, LLC.