

Using Interprofessional Simulation to Improve Obstetrical Patient Outcomes

Abstract

Nurses need to be highly skilled and prepared to respond to obstetrical emergencies such as postpartum hemorrhage, shoulder dystocia, and precipitous delivery. Joint Commission has emphasized the need for drills to enhance staff training and elevate nurses to a higher skill level. We used high fidelity patient simulation with a maternal child simulator to provide a quality interactive learning experience. The experience included Obstetricians, surgical technicians, CNA's, and RN's. This experience enhanced interdisciplinary teamwork, communication, and critical thinking. Providing training experiences with high fidelity simulation provides nurses with the opportunity to practice skills, teamwork, delegation, and interdisciplinary communication during low volume high acuity Obstetrical emergencies. Well trained OB staff will improve the outcomes of patients and improve the performance, communication, and confidence of the interdisciplinary team.