


Chapter 7

Enhancing Patient Care Through Interprofessional Education and Simulation–Based Learning

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DOI: 10.4018/979-8-3373-1127-2.ch007

ABSTRACT

Healthcare systems and services should prioritize people's interests and needs. These services involve collaboration among various health professionals, sometimes working together with distinct roles that must be aligned to achieve the best patient-centered care responses. Interprofessional education (IPE) is crucial for preparing healthcare professionals to work together effectively. IPE positively impacts healthcare quality by improving communication and teamwork, reducing errors, and enhancing outcomes. Collaborative practice fosters mutual respect and trust among team members, leading to job satisfaction and lower burnout rates. Simulation is an important educational method to implement IPE. This chapter will focus on the challenges and opportunities regarding the implementation of an interprofessional simulation-based education to develop effective teamwork and enhancing healthcare quality.

INTRODUCTION: ENHANCING PATIENT CARE THROUGH INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND SIMULATION-BASED LEARNING

Healthcare must be centered on patients and their needs. To achieve this, the coordinated efforts of various health collaborators is required. These professionals may work together in a synchronized manner or sequentially, depending on the situation. Each professional brings a clear and distinct role to the table, and their contributions must align and converge to develop the best patient-centered care strategies.

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines interprofessional education (IPE) as a collaborative learning process involving students from multiple professions, enabling effective collaboration and improving health outcomes. Its goal is to foster effective collaboration by enabling these students to learn with, from, and about each other (World Health Organization [WHO], 2010). Essentially, IPE aims to equip both future and current healthcare providers with the necessary skills to function as cohesive members of a collaborative workforce (Spaulding et al., 2021; WHO, 2010), and is increasingly recognized as a critical component in preparing future healthcare professionals (van Diggele et al., 2020).

The integration of different roles and expertise is vital for providing comprehensive and effective healthcare. It is an essential step in preparing a “collaborative practice-ready” healthcare workforce, equipping them to better address local health needs (WHO, 2010). IPE fosters communication and understanding among different healthcare disciplines. This collaborative approach enhances the quality of care

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