Interprofessional Simulation Exercise: Bringing Medical and Nursing Students Together

By UTHealth CIPC

Simulation-based training is seen as an effective method to teach physicians, nurses, dentists, emergency medical technicians and other health professionals (Cook, Hatala, Brydges, Zendejas, Szostek, Wang, Hamstra, 2011).

On March 1, 2016, an interprofessional education (IPE) event was held at McGovern Medical School at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) in the Surgical and Clinical Skills Center. The event was a pilot simulation exercise that involved 10 third-year medical school students and 10 nursing school students from the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP).

The exercise was planned by the following UTHealth faculty members:

- Allison Ownby, PhD, MEd, Assistant Dean of Faculty and Educational Development
- Jennifer L. Swails, MD, Assistant Professor and Associate Director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program
- Mark Farnie, MD, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
- Mariya Tankimovich, DNP, RN, APRN, FNP-C, Assistant Professor of Nursing – Clinical Family Health and Director of the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Program
- Ms. Marcy Hamburger, Program Manager of the Standardized Patient Program
- Ms. Monica Garcia, Program Manager of Education (Internal Medicine)

The simulation exercise was designed for several purposes: 1) To determine students’ perceptions of the usefulness of interprofessional education (IPE) in preparation for a career in healthcare; 2) To assess third-year medical students’ and FNP students’ knowledge of major contributors and disruptors to successful teamwork and overall perceptions about teamwork; and 3) To evaluate a novel case-based standardized patient (SP) simulation exercise designed to highlight the pitfalls of traditional role-based communication and importance of a team-based approach to patient care.

The students were provided with a pocket guide to the Team Strategies and Tools to Enhance Performance and Patient Safety (TeamSTEPPS) via email. When the simulation exercise began, the students were asked to solve a case in which the standardized patient (SP) selectively revealed information to each of the students.

Then, the students were responsible for communicating effectively and collaborating with each other in order to arrive at the best management plan for the patient. Students were then asked to clearly explain the plan to the patient. After each team member documented his or her perception of the plan, the SP gave each student feedback and the students provided feedback to each other.

Mariya Tankimovich, DNP, RN, APRN, FNP-C, Assistant Professor of Nursing – Clinical Family Health and Director of the UTHealth School of Nursing’s FNP program, summarized what the students had learned from the simulation exercise. According to Dr. Tankimovich, “The students learned about teamwork; its benefits, challenges, and importance of incorporating it into everyday healthcare related events.”

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Dr. Tankimovich continued, “This study will impact further exploration and evaluation of IPE programs and curricula development and the challenges associated with them. It will additionally illuminate student perceptions of the usefulness of IPE to health care education (HCE). The culmination of the knowledge gained in this study will help to guide faculty decision-making about IPE curricula and programs.”

Dean Lorraine Frazier, Ph.D., R.N., F.A.A.N., Dean of the UTHealth School of Nursing, was in attendance at the event. Dean Frazier began the initial dialog between the Surgical Clinical Skills Center and UTHealth School of Nursing to develop the pilot simulation exercise. As the former project director of TexGenResearch, which supported multidisciplinary, multi-institutional biobank development of clinical data and biological samplings, Dean Frazier has long been a champion of interprofessional collaboration.

Also in attendance were Patricia Butler, MD, Vice Dean for Educational Programs, The University of Texas Medical School at Houston, Carlos Buford, DNP, RN, FNP-BC, Assistant Professor of Family Health, Kala A. Christopherson, MSN, RN, FNP-C, Instructor of Clinical Nursing Graduate Nurse Education, Mariya Tankimovich, DNP, RN, APRN, FNP-C, and other faculty members.

For more information about the simulation exercise, please contact Mariya Tankimovich, DNP, RN, APRN, FNP-C, at Mariya.Tankimovich@uth.tmc.edu. Photographs of the event are available on the Facebook account for the UTHealth School of Nursing. For more information about interprofessional education (IPE), please visit the Center for Interprofessional Collaboration at www.uth.edu/ipc/about/what-is-ipe.htm.

Reference:
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The sessions consisted of activities and lectures facilitated by UTHealth faculty members. Students participated in team-building activities that helped to enhance communication and teamwork skills. Lectures were based on the Team Strategies and Tools to Enhance Performance and Patient Safety (TeamSTEPPS), a curriculum developed by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ).

The final day of the colloquium featured guest speakers from the UTHealth School of Biomedical Informatics and McGovern Medical School at UTHealth. Amy Franklin, PhD, a physician from the Harris Health Geriatric and Palliative House Call Program, talked about the program’s collaborative approach to providing clinical services. After the lectures, the participants received their certificates of completion and met representatives from the UTHealth Association of Interprofessional Healthcare Students.

For more information about the Spring 2016 Deans’ Honors Colloquium in Interprofessional Collaboration, visit the website at www.uth.edu/ipc/colloquium.htm. Please contact Juliana J. Brixey at j.brixey@uth.tmc.edu or visit the CIPC’s booth at SIC Saluton 2016 if you would like to attend the Fall 2016 event.

The CIPC would like to thank the following UTHealth faculty members for their assistance:

**Moderators**

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Associate Professor of Biomedical Informatics and Nursing
UTHealth School of Biomedical Informatics and UTHealth School of Nursing

Arch (Chip) Carson, MD, PhD
Associate Professor for the Department of Epidemiology
UTHealth School of Public Health

**Activity Coordinators/Presenters**

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Assistant Professor of Nursing Systems, UTHealth School of Nursing

Charles M. Chassay, MD
Associate Dean for Alumni Relations, UTHealth School of Nursing

Stacy M. Cranford, PhD, MPH, RN
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Amy Franklin, PhD
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John Halphen, MD
Assistant Professor, Division of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, McGovern Medical School at UTHealth

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**Students from the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston**

have chartered an organization named the Association of Students for Interprofessional Healthcare (ASIPH).

The ASIPH promotes interprofessional education (IPE), practice and research among students at UTHealth. The organization will provide opportunities for education and training in interprofessional collaboration (IPC) for students, role-play team-based practice to be anticipated upon graduation, and participate in state, regional, and national student IPE competitions. “Collaboration is key to delivering efficient, quality healthcare,” said Gina Duong, ASIPH Secretary.

The student organization will focus on implementing a variety of events for UTHealth students during the 2016 to 2017 semesters. “The ASIPH plans to incorporate social, educational and service-oriented events geared toward outreach, promotion and development in interprofessional collaboration,” said Joseph Guillory, ASIPH President.

The ASIPH officers for 2016-2017 are:

- President: Joseph Guillory, MS4, McGovern Medical School at UTHealth
- Vice President: Krystal Beatty, MSN, UTHealth School of Nursing
- Secretary: Gina Duong, MS2, McGovern Medical School at UTHealth
- Treasurer: Asif Kabani, MS2, McGovern Medical School at UTHealth

The ASIPH meets every first Tuesday of the month from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM in UCT-1412, on the 14th floor of the University Center Tower. Membership is open to students at any level in any UTHealth school.

To learn more about the student organization, send an email to the ASIPH President at joseph.d.guillory@uth.tmc.edu or speak to Dr. Arch “Chip” Carson, the ASIPH faculty advisor.
IPE Resources

ONLINE RESOURCES

1. Core Competencies for Interprofessional Collaborative Practice
   Website: http://www.aacn.nche.edu/education-resources/ipecorept0.pdf

2. National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education - Resource Center
   Website: https://nexusipe.org/informing/resource-center

3. WHO Patient Safety Curriculum Guide
   Website: http://www.who.int/patientsafety/education/curriculum/Curriculum_Tools/en/

4. CLARION Case Competition
   Website: https://www.chip.umn.edu/clarion/case-competition

PUBLICATIONS


4. Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions (ASAHP) - Journal of Allied Health
   URL: http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/asahp/jah;jsessionid=96pruv74aded.alexandra

Deans’ Honors Colloquium in Interprofessional Collaboration

Register today for a free training workshop that will introduce you to collaborative health care!

- Learn about the core principles of interprofessional collaboration (IPC).
- Receive training in TeamSTEPPS® (Team Strategies and Tools to Enhance Performance and Patient Safety).
- Participate in team-building activities with students from all UTHealth schools.
- Attend all four sessions and receive a Certificate of Completion.

Event Information

Fall 2016 Semester
Thursdays, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (dates to be announced)

UTHealth School of Dentistry
Fullerton Classroom (4310)
7500 Cambridge Street
Houston, Texas 77054
Parking will be validated.

1. Contact your faculty representatives.
   Ms. Claire Singletary, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
   Dr. Bela Patel, McGovern Medical School
   Dr. Juliana Brixey, School of Biomedical Sciences
   Dr. Stacy Crandall, School of Nursing
   Dr. Karen Novak, School of Dentistry
   Dr. Arch (Chip) Carson, School of Public Health

2. Register for the workshop.
   Visit online at www.uth.edu/ipc/apply.htm to apply before Thursday, September 29, 2016.

Scan this QR code with your mobile device to apply. If you do not have a QR code reader, go to the app store and search “QR Reader.”

The UTHealth Center for Interprofessional Collaboration presents...

The Collaborative Campus is a publication of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) Center for Interprofessional Collaboration (CIPC). The newsletter features news about interprofessional education (IPE) activities at UTHealth, and announcements of local and national IPE events. Issues can be downloaded from the CIPC’s blog at www.uth.edu/ipc/blog.

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