Nursing Simulation Lab Overview and Guidelines

Our Purpose

Mennonite College of Nursing seeks to provide our undergraduate and graduate students an exceptional educational experience in a dynamic and diverse learning environment. We seek to improve patient safety and quality of care through use of clinical simulation in education and research by demonstrating and reinforcing the highest level of performance and readiness.

Our Goals

The Clinical Simulation Laboratory experience will:

1. Provide a risk-free environment for student learners that reinforce critical thinking and decision making
2. Enhance student's ability to promote patient safety and quality health care
3. Increase clinical competence through selected critical thinking scenarios
4. Improve performance, communication, and efficiency in clinical setting.
5. Encourage evidence based practice leading to improvement in clinical education
6. Promote evidence-based ~~competent~~ decision making for professional practice
7. Promote empowerment of the student in preparation for the clinical setting
8. Facilitate debriefing and positive feedback to enhance student learning
9. Encourage students to self-analyze their performance and use critical thinking during the reflection process
10. Provide opportunities to enhance caring behaviors towards peers and patients

MCN Clinical Nursing Lab Faculty Guidelines

The Nursing Simulation Labs are staffed by the Nursing Simulation Lab Coordinator, Faculty, Graduate Assistants and Senior Undergraduate Lab Assistants. Lab staff is available to assist students with practice and proficiency of clinical nursing skills throughout the year, as well as participate in scheduled clinical lab days. Students may utilize the Nursing Simulation Lab for supervised practice by signing up for assistance during open hours. When needed, course or clinical instructors may refer students to lab for additional practice or remediation. Guidelines for remediation are available by contacting the Nursing Simulation Lab Coordinator. Specific open lab hours, during which students may practice, are posted on the MCN home page.

Lab Days:

* Prior to each lab day faculty members will receive a schedule for the upcoming lab day that includes each topic being covered during the lab day and individual areas they are responsible to prepare for and lead
  + Faculty members are responsible for all information covered during a lab day so they are able to lead the lab as well as assist students with performing skills and answer any questions that students may have
* It is suggested that faculty members be at the lab approximately 30 minutes prior to the start time of the scheduled lab to make sure all equipment/supplies are in order and any last minute questions can be answered
* Faculty members are encouraged to schedule an appointment with the Nursing Simulation Coordinator or faculty who assist in the lab prior to their scheduled day to go over the supplies/equipment.
* Lab days may cover skills, simulations, or a combination of both skills & simulations

Skill Module Information:

* Information for each skill covered during the lab day can be found on the coordinating theories Reggienet site
* The reference used for skills covered in the lab, is the current Potter & Perry Clinical Nursing Skills & Techniques book.
  + The page numbers for the readings are identified on each module on Reggienet
* Mosby videos are located on the MCN homepages for viewing
  + They can be accessed at:
* <http://nursing.illinoisstate.edu/prelicensure/?utm_source=Academics+Tab&utm_medium=left_nav&utm_term=left_trad_bsn&utm_campaign=Nursing>
* There are skills checklists associated with each skill.
  + These do a great job of outlining what is expected of students to cover with each skill
  + The checklists were modified from Potter and Perry skills checklist, so are a good resources when preparing what to cover on the lab day
  + Students have to print checklists off and bring them to assigned lab. Faculty need to sign off when skill is demonstrated by student.
  + Please document in the comments section on the individual student checklists if someone is struggling, or has areas to improve upon. This helps the student as well as the next person who works with the student when they return the lab
* Most skills also have ATI information students are able to review for the skills. If you are interested in looking at those you can do so with the following instructions from Cathi Kaesberg:
  + www.atitesting.com<http://www.atitesting.com
  + user = abbi1632
  + password = weseman
  + products/ manage products/ tutorials/ select class/ no class assigned/ access modules/ "click" picture of key for desired module

Simulation Information:

* Prior to the start of the simulation
  + Scenarios are written and loaded into manikin data bases
    - All props are made as realistic as possible and in the appropriate place prior to start of each scenario
    - Generally all scenarios will run 15-20 minutes, with a 20-25 minute debriefing period immediately following the simulation
  + Prior to the start of each simulation several things should be clarified with students:
    - Roles, students and faculty/staff
    - Manikin directions
    - Charts
    - Supplies
    - Equipment
  + There will be a folder for faculty to give students a brief history/report of the patient they will be caring for and a description of objectives guiding scenario
  + Once faculty have answered all student questions, the scenario may begin
* Action portion
  + Approximately twenty minutes
  + Key leaders **MAY NOT** *interject* or *stop* progression of the scenario to correct errors
    - Keep scratch paper/small notebook to write discussion items in that can be discuss during debriefings sessions
  + Faculty observe how the simulated experience unfolds while running the manikin
  + Once allotted time reached
    - Scenario halted
    - Group as a whole moves into the debriefing portion

Debriefing

* + *Focal point of simulation*
  + Approximately twenty minutes
  + Try to avoid
    - Slightly breeze over some information
    - Turn debriefing time into lecture
* This should be a guided review/reflection of simulated clinical experience done with those students, staff, & faculty involved
* Learner focused
  + Faculty ***facilitate*** but might not be the leader of the session
* Opportunity to reinforce learning objectives
* Purpose of Debriefing:
* Ensure learning objectives are met
* Help students evaluate:
  + Own performance
  + Team’s performance
  + Personal understanding of the patient
  + Patients condition
  + Patients responses to interventions
* Help students learn things they missed while engaged in the role they were simulating

Goals of Debriefing:

* Enhance critical thinking and problem solving
  + Compare different perspectives to increase understanding
  + Encourage collaboration and communication
  + Reflect on emotions experienced
  + Safe place to discuss experience without pressure
  + Correlate simulated clinical experiences with real-world experiences

Best Practices:

* Professional learning environment
* Maintain confidentiality
* **Safe** environment \* students must feel safe
* Facilitator present
* Faculty promote value of activity
  + Time of shared learning, not lecture

Effective Techniques:

* Socratic, open-ended questions
  + “What were you thinking when ‘that’ happened?”
  + Encourage learners to look at their behaviors
  + Explore how group functioned as a team
  + Address questions to group, not individual when applicable
* Make relationship to real world problems
* Be nonjudgmental
  + Empathize
* Silence is not a problem
* Rephrase, reflect, reword, echo, repeat

More extensive debriefing guidelines can be found in debriefing guidelines for MCN document

MCN Clinical Nursing Lab Student Guidelines

The Clinical Nursing Labs are located in the Nursing Simulation Laboratory. Clinical Nursing Labs are staffed by Faculty, the Clinical Lab Coordinator, Graduate Assistants and/or Senior Undergraduate Lab Assistants. Lab staff is available to assist students with practice and proficiency of clinical nursing skills throughout the year. Students may utilize the Clinical Nursing Labs for supervised practice by signing up for assistance during open hours. When needed, course or clinical instructors may refer students to lab for additional practice or remediation. Guidelines for remediation are available by contacting the Clinical Lab Coordinator. Specific open lab hours, during which students may practice, are posted on the MCN home page.

1. Lab Etiquette

* Use professional behavior when in the Clinical Nursing Labs. This includes, but may not be limited to the following:
  + - All assignments must be completed prior to lab day. Demonstration of appropriate behavior during teachings and demonstrations. Including not talking while staff members are giving instructions, engaging in simulated situations, and actively participating in the clinical demonstrations. Coming to the lab unprepared, needing further assistance with skill demonstration, or demonstration of unprofessional behavior will result in a mandated return to the lab at a later date.
* What happens in the lab stays in the lab!
  + - Students are allowed to make mistakes in the lab, so active learning can take place. This information should not be discussed outside of the lab.
    - Everyone should be allowed to learn from the lab experiences in the same manner, and tipping students off who attend the lab at a later time gives them an unfair advantage.
* Follow the Dress Code, as outlined below for each lab visit. Professional dress differs between a Lab day and participation in Open Lab Hours. If appropriate dress code is not followed, students will be sent home. Make up for missed time will be determined by the clinical lab coordinator.
* Bring all necessary supplies:
  + - Stethoscope
    - Watch with second hand
    - Clinical Skills Checklists
    - Pen
    - Red nursing bag
    - Any books or resources necessary for the day
* If you come to the lab without the proper supplies/equipment, you may be asked to return at a later date.
* Phones are NOT to be used during lab time. Cellular phones and electronic devices should be set to the “off” or “silent” position while students are in the Clinical Simulation Lab.
* Use appropriate language/conversations at all times. Swearing, profanities or abusive discussions will be grounds for immediate dismissal from the lab experience.
* Follow Standard Precautions. Sharps and syringes are to be disposed in appropriate Sharps containers. Anyone sustaining a needle-stick or any other type of injury MUST complete an injury report.
* Many clinical supplies are re-used for cost savings. Clinical Lab staff will give you direction before activities:
  + - Save flush syringes and caps
    - Save Foley catheter supplies
* Leave the Clinical Simulation lab in order. Please dispose of any trash, clean work areas when finished, and put equipment back in its proper place when are done using it.

1. Lab Day Procedure

* Each student will have 1-2 days per semester that the clinical group will report to the clinical nursing lab instead of the agency setting, or a “lab day”. Students will attend lab days as a group with their clinical faculty. This time will be counted as a part of the total accumulated hours for each clinical experience.
  + Clinical nursing lab days will consist of activities related to skill development. Such activities may be learning modules for skills, simulated patient experiences or a combination of both.
  + Clinical nursing lab days may have activities required prior to scheduled days as well as active participation in activities during scheduled lab time.
* Instructions for lab days will begin sharply at 0800. Please arrive by 0745 to receive direction for the day. Students who arrive late will be asked to come back to cover the material they have missed and such behavior will be reflected on clinical evaluation information.
* Participation and performance in lab day will be reflected in clinical evaluations.
* Scheduled Lab days are mandatory, clinical instructors must be contacted as early as possible if unable to attend. Missed lab days will need to be rescheduled. Clinical lab days are documented as clinical hours. Unexcused absences are UNACCEPTED and will result in appropriate disciplinary measures. Failure to attend the scheduled lab day will be grounds for failure of clinical course.
* Lab day modules will be available on reggienet under the related theory course. Please read all modules carefully, follow instructions completely, and watch the related videos PRIOR to coming to lab.
* If unable to access any of the videos or reggienet information, please contact the faculty member who is leading the theory course you are attending lab from ASAP, so access can be granted prior to lab day. Inability to access information does not excuse students from fulfilling lab day requirements and unprepared students will be sent home to prepare.
* If there are worksheets or modules that need to be complete BEFORE lab day, make sure these are done. Attending lab unprepared will result in immediate dismissal and require makeup of missed material at another time. This information will be reflected on clinical evaluation.
* Each module individually is not required to be printed; however some students may choose to do so to facilitate learning. Clinical Skills Checklists MUST be printed prior to lab day. These check sheets will be turned in at the end of the day to receive credit for the skill. If they are not turned in at the end of the day, students will be asked to come back and demonstrate skills again in order to get credit.
* Dress code required for the clinical setting you are coming to the lab from applies to lab days as well. Proper shirt, pants, shoes, name tags and accessories must be followed. See course syllabus/student handbook.
* Selected skills require practice during open hours. All skills requiring open hour practice are identified on skill modules, on clinical skill check sheets and will be discussed during scheduled lab days.
  + Such skills will be required to have appropriate number of successful practices completed within one to two weeks of student’s participation in scheduled lab day.
  + Failure to complete skills within allotted time may result in student’s inability to participate in clinical setting until requirements are fulfilled.

1. Open Hour Procedures

* Clinical Nursing Lab has time available for students to practice skills, fulfill required skill practice/proficiency, or receive extra help.
* Students may utilize allotted open hour times by signing up for available times in the lab binder located in the commons area of the Nursing Simulation Laboratory. Please follow directions for sign up:
  + Use pencil
  + Up to two student per slot working on same skills
* During fall semester, every returning student must attend open hour times to review skills learned in previous semesters.
  + Directions, assigned skills, and timeframe for completion will be posted on blackboard reggienet.
  + Notification will be sent out via e-mail to students of such requirements.
  + Failure to fulfill skills review obligations within allotted timeframe will result in student’s inability to participate in clinical setting and will be reflected in clinical evaluation.
* The following dress code is required when entering the Nursing Simulation Laboratory:
  + For lab days, the designated uniform from clinical must be worn with name tag
  + For skill practice/proficiency, lab coat must be worn in addition to below requirements
  + No shorts/skirts above mid-thigh
  + All cleavage and midriff areas should be covered
  + No Spaghetti Strap shirts without a blouse or sweater covering
  + No t-shirts with offensive language or symbols
  + Name tag
* If students are unable to attend open hours signed up for their name must be removed from sign-up sheets to allow other students to participate in open hours. If unable to come to campus and remove name, students must contact Clinical Nursing Lab Coordinator via e-mail ([jmool@ilstu.edu](mailto:jmool@ilstu.edu)).

1. Use of Simulation Equipment

* Simulation equipment may be utilized during clinical lab days, for mandated remediation, or during open hours for student requested extra assistance
* Simulation equipment is only be operated by personnel who have been trained to use such devices
* Students are required to wash their hands before touching simulation manikins. Gloves should be worn for all patient care procedures. Patient care scenarios should be taken as realistically as possible, which means gloves should be worn!
* Ink will permanently stain the simulation manikins’ skin. Ink pens and markers should not be used in the setting within close proximity of the manikins.
* Photocopied papers should not be placed on, under, or near the manikins to prevent staining from ink. Iodine or other staining medications should not come into contact with the manikins. DO NOT USE BETADINE ON THE MANIKINS.
* Do not introduce any fluids except airway lubricant in small amounts into the manikins’ esophagus, trachea, or torso.
* Do not place artificial blood or other materials on the manikins’ skin without verifying with staff that it will not damage the manikin.
* Students are expected to bring all necessary equipment needed for simulation experience.
* Students should report any damage to equipment to the Clinical Simulation lab staff or instructors as soon as possible.
* During simulated patient experiences, students will be video recorded.

1. Use of Lab Equipment Outside of Clinical Nursing Lab

* All students requesting the use of nursing lab equipment for presentation or teaching activities must utilize the “Clinical Nursing Lab Equipment sign-out form”.
* Form can be found in the 105 area of the Nursing Simulation lab and must be signed by both the student and a lab staff member before equipment will be released.
* To facilitate the check-out of any lab equipment, please call (309-438-7844) or email the Clinical Lab Coordinator (jmool@ilstu.du) at least one week in advance of the date requested.
* When lab equipment is returned, both the student and a lab staff member must initial the sign-out form again.
* Replacement of equipment found to be missing that has not been signed back in will be the responsibility of the last person to whom the equipment is checked out to.
* Failure to comply with sign out procedures and/or loss or damage to lab equipment will result in the assessment of replacement fees (see sign out form for details).

1. Lab Staff

* Clinical Faculty
  + Attend lab day with their clinical group.
  + Are responsible for teaching skills and/or running scenarios on their scheduled lab day
  + On occasion faculty members are assigned to assist in the lab as a part of their workload
* Clinical Nursing Lab Coordinator
  + Oversees the daily operating schedule of each lab
  + Participates in evaluation of student performance as needed
* Graduate Assistants
  + Registered nurses who are currently working on their Master’s Degree in Nursing
* Lab Assistants
  + Senior nursing students who assist in the lab