

第 8 回高知大学看護学会 招聘講演

The effect of pre-clinical home visit simulation

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Background: Home is unfamiliar clinical site compared to the hospital setting, because most of the clinical practicum is held at the hospital. Well-designed pre-clinical simulation can lessen the anxiety and fear of on-site practice and give an opportunity to gain competence. Increased self-confidence and improved clinical performance have shown outcomes on the simulation of the critical care setting, but there are seldom research results in home care simulation.

Purpose: The purpose of this study is to identify if the pre-clinical home visit simulation by nursing students affects on-site home visit; changing and retaining self-confidence and improving clinical performance.

Methods: Home visit simulation scenario utilizing standardized patients was conducted at the home care simulation laboratory which is realistic, simulated home environment before the community nursing clinical rotation. The 3rd year students who were enrolled in the community health nursing course (N=63) were invited to participate in this study. 23 scenario-based items of the checklist of the level of clinical performance on home care and the 13 Likert scale self-confidence questionnaires were used for the comparison of the pre and post home visit simulation and after on-site home visit. Descriptive statistics was used to analyze the level of clinical performance, and repeated measure ANOVA was conducted to compare the level of self-confidence.

Findings: 63 students participated in this research; 60.3% (n=38) of the participants acted as nurses and the remaining 39.7% (n=25) acted as evaluators. Mean levels of self-confidence of the pre, post simulation and after home visit were 2.60 (SD=0.33), 3.20 (SD=0.43), and 3.19 (SD=0.30) respectively. And there were significant time effects ($F=87.77$, $p<0.05$). Nurse-role students' mean level of clinical performance was 1.53 (SD=0.15).

Conclusions: The level of self-confidence increased after the home care simulation, and also retained after the on-site home care. Nursing students' level of clinical performance on home care was considerably high. Those results indicate that if the pre-clinical home visit simulation would be conducted, it would affect students' self-confidence and students would be performing home visiting satisfactorily. Further research is recommended to identify the influencing factors on the clinical performance.