Significance

With the new Essentials of Master’s Education in Nursing, almost all graduate nursing students are now required to complete a course in Advanced Health Assessment. Since many of our graduate nursing students are distance-learning students, it was necessary to create an online version of this curriculum. Previously, the only videos available to our nursing faculty were physician-produced assessment videos which came from a medical, non-nursing perspective. Copyright issues and cost prohibited the use of commercially-prepared videos in our online classes.

Storyboarding

Storyboards were created to inform the camera crew when to zoom in or out, or reposition the cameras to keep the camera shots confluent with the script. Storyboards helped to create the story and keep a smooth flow between audio and visual content.

Plan

With a commitment to providing health assessment instruction from a nursing perspective, we created eighteen videos for use as teaching strategies in this course. Each video addressed a single body system of the complete head-to-toe physical examination, and each examination was conducted by a board-certified nurse practitioner. Videos were also created to provide instructions on screenings for visual acuity, hearing, and scoliosis. Our patients were volunteer students, with the exception of professional models which were hired for the female and male reproductive system examinations.

Editing

At the completion of filming, the videos were edited and published to a renewable content library, which is accessible through the online learning Management System.

Script Writing

Scripts were written on large post-it papers and affixed to an off-camera wall, enabling the examiners to have a point of reference and to stay in sequence.

Outcome

These videos are currently being viewed by students both in online classes and in the live classroom setting. They are also being utilized across the curriculum by both undergraduate and graduate students. The response from the students has been overwhelmingly positive, since they are now exposed to a more appropriate model of the nurse practitioner role and they have exposure to health assessment from a nursing perspective.