

# HOW TO INCORPORATE CLINICAL SIMULATION INTO GRADUATE MSN/DNP CURRICULUM

Sheryl Mitchell, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC,  
ACNP-BC

Stephanie Burgess, PhD, APRN, FNP

# Disclosures

- ▣ Dr. Stephanie Burgess- none
- ▣ Dr. Sheryl Mitchell- none

# Purpose of this Presentation

- ▣ To articulate the role of clinical simulation in graduate nursing education in assessing NP Competencies in Clinical Courses.



# Objectives

- ▣ Identify the role of clinical simulation in NP education.
- ▣ Develop evidence based scenarios for clinical NP student simulation.
- ▣ Develop evaluation tools to assess NP student clinical competency.

# Role of simulation in NP education

- ▣ Allows direct observation by faculty of student's clinical skills.
- ▣ Safe environment.
- ▣ Patient disease states can be replicated.
- ▣ Assess individual critical thinking skills.
- ▣ Assists with determining gaps in student's learning.

# Role of simulation in NP education

- ▣ Students have time to reflect on their experience.
- ▣ Foster confidence.
- ▣ Reduce errors.

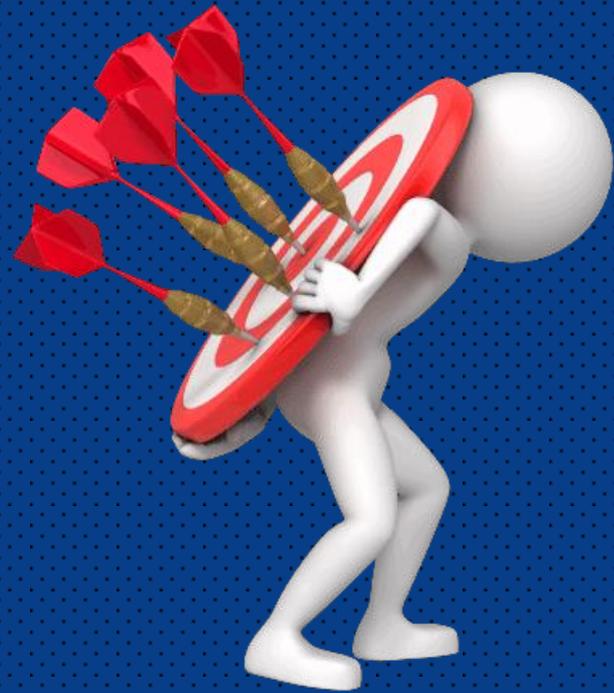
# Why we pursued simulation

- ▣ Time constraints
  - One semester, we had 140 check offs just in one course. More than we could manage
- ▣ Improve competency check off
  - Get a better idea of student's performance when we could directly watch everything they are doing without distractions



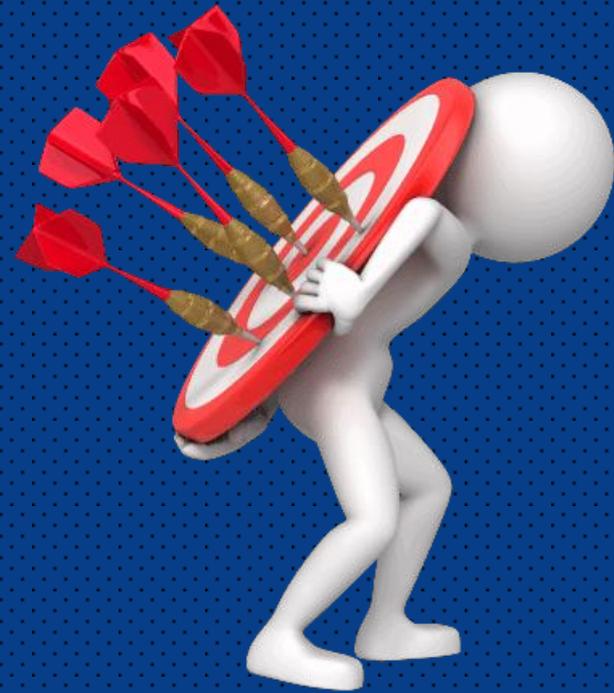
# Goals of Simulation

- ▣ Assess the student's ability to assess and manage a patient in the clinical simulation lab.
- ▣ Assess the student's ability to recognize normal and abnormal diagnostic findings.
- ▣ Assess the student's ability recognize normal and abnormal physical exam findings.



# Goals of Simulation

- ▣ Assess the student's ability to examine the patient and formulate an appropriate assessment and plan for the patient.
- ▣ Assess the student's ability to write an appropriate progress note that includes the SOAP format with the plan, medication, education, referral, and follow-up.
- ▣ Assess the student's ability to perform an assessment in a timely manner.



# GAPs

- ▣ NP simulation scenarios that measure NP competencies.
- ▣ Scant research involving FNP students.



# Faculty Challenges

- ❑ Check offs: 2 at least per clinical course per student: 5 NP Faculty for FNP and AGACNP courses
- ❑ Maintaining productive patient quotas while checking off students
- ❑ Limited resources (space, clinical sites)
- ❑ Increased student enrollments



# Simulation Pilot

- ▣ Used as one of the check offs in 5 NP courses for check off purposes. The other check off was done in a real clinical setting with us.

# How we built Simulation into our Curriculum?

- ▣ Developed scenarios, CASE study models
  - Patient presents with problem, chief complaint
    - ▣ VS
    - ▣ Diagnostics

# How we built Simulation into our Curriculum?

- ▣ Developed faculty scripts that follow the patient scenario
  - History
  - Physical exam
  - Faculty scripts also have the patient's vital signs and all diagnostics.

# How we built Simulation into our Curriculum?

- ▣ Incorporate NONPF competencies
- ▣ Incorporated the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation & Learning Standards of Best Practice for Simulation
  - Standard I – Terminology
  - Standard II – Professional Integrity of Participants
  - Standard III – Participant Objectives

# How we built Simulation into our Curriculum?

- ▣ Standard IV – Facilitation
- ▣ Standard V - Facilitator
- ▣ Standard VI – Debriefing Process Standard VII  
- Participant Assessment and Evaluation

# How we built Simulation into our Curriculum

- ▣ Developed an online introductory module
  - To help students acclimate to the Simulation Lab
  - Posted the link in the Course Website
  - Included a demonstration on how to assess the manikin using a patient scenario
    - ▣ History
    - ▣ Physical exam

# How we built Simulation into our Curriculum?

- ▣ Used high fidelity manikins
  - Collaborated with the Technician and Sim Lab Guru to program the manikins to have physical findings
    - ▣ Lung sounds
    - ▣ Heart sounds
    - ▣ Findings that could not be programmed, the student had to ask about
    - ▣ Technician also was with us while running the scenario student check offs



# How we built Simulation into our Curriculum?

- ▣ Developed 6 Cases, all for FNP and 5 for AGACNP
  - Contraception
  - Severe Dyspepsia (STEMI)
  - Head Injury
  - DM, CRF, and HTN
  - DM, Substance Abuse, Seizure
  - CVA

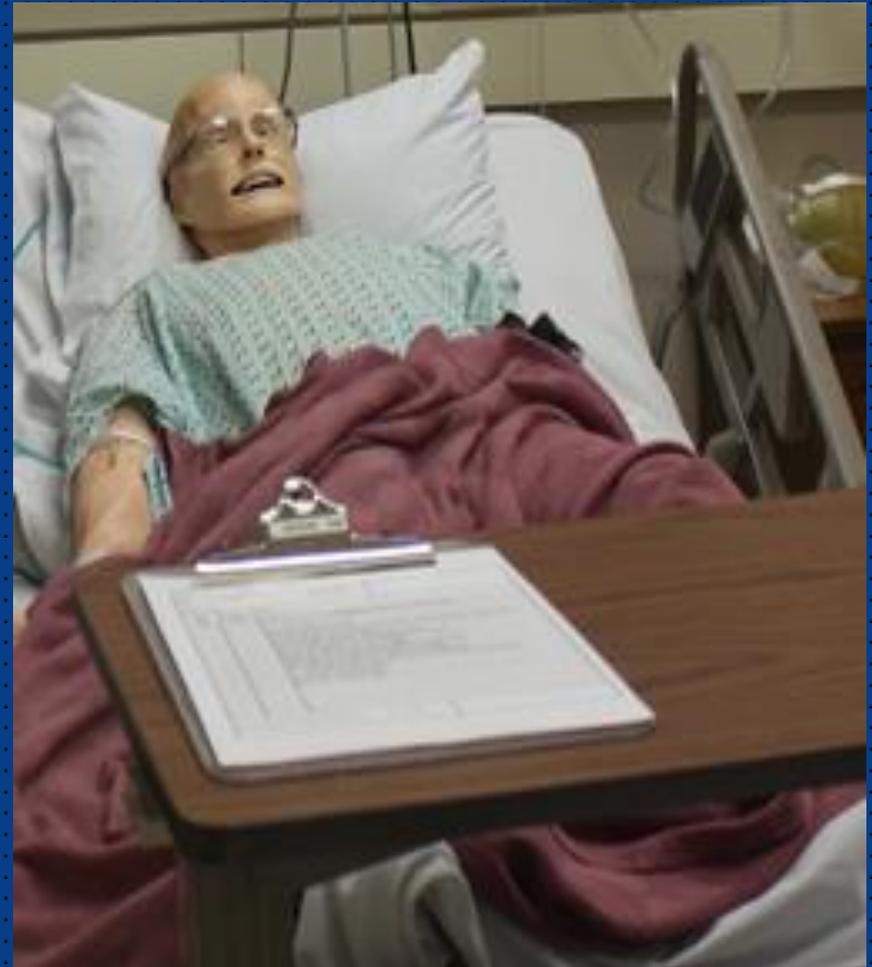
# How we built Simulation into our Curriculum?

- ▣ Student has 45 minutes top to bottom
  - Conducting additional History
  - Doing the Physical exam
  - Reviewing VS and LABs
  - Formulating Diagnoses
  - Formulating Plan
    - ▣ Meds, Ed, Ref, F/U
  - Write up
  - Debrief



# Simulation day

- ▣ Students are not given any information prior to simulation other than general orientation information.
  - Video
  - Optional orientation day
- ▣ Must arrive 15 minutes prior to their scheduled time.
- ▣ Pick their case without knowledge of the case.



# Simulation Day

- ▣ Five minutes to review the case prior to entering the room.
- ▣ 15 minutes to assess the patient.
  - >15 minutes, time deducted from write up.
- ▣ 20 minutes to write



# Simulation Day

- ▣ Student Case
- ▣ Patient's name: Justin Jones
- ▣ Identifying Data: 38 YO, male presented to your office. New Patient
- ▣ S:
- ▣ CC: new onset seizure and SOB this morning x 30 minutes. No other seizures. Feeling of something in his throat, constant clearing throat with no relief
- ▣ HPI: Wife witnessed intermittent seizure activity this AM, Heavy ETOH consumption and marijuana use last nite. Compliant with meds

# Simulation Day–Student Ex.

- ▣ PMH: CKD stage 3, HTN, DM, CHF with EF of 35% dx. 2013
- ▣ PSH: renal bx. r/o Reiters Syndrome neg, 7/2013
- ▣ SH: Disabled, lives with wife. +ETOH, +marijuana use. NKDA
- ▣ FH: Mom: CHF, HTN, DM
- ▣ Medications: Lasix 80mg daily, Isosorbide Dinitrate 20mg 3x/d, Lisinopril 5mg/d, Metoprolol XL Lipitor 20mg, Calcitrol 0.25mcg/d

# Simulation Day-Student Ex.

- ▣ PE
- ▣ General: WDWN, NAD. VS- T- 98.5, HR- 106, R-20, BP- 180/94. O2 sats 100% on RA. BMI- 32 WT. 79kgs.

# Simulation Day–Student Ex.

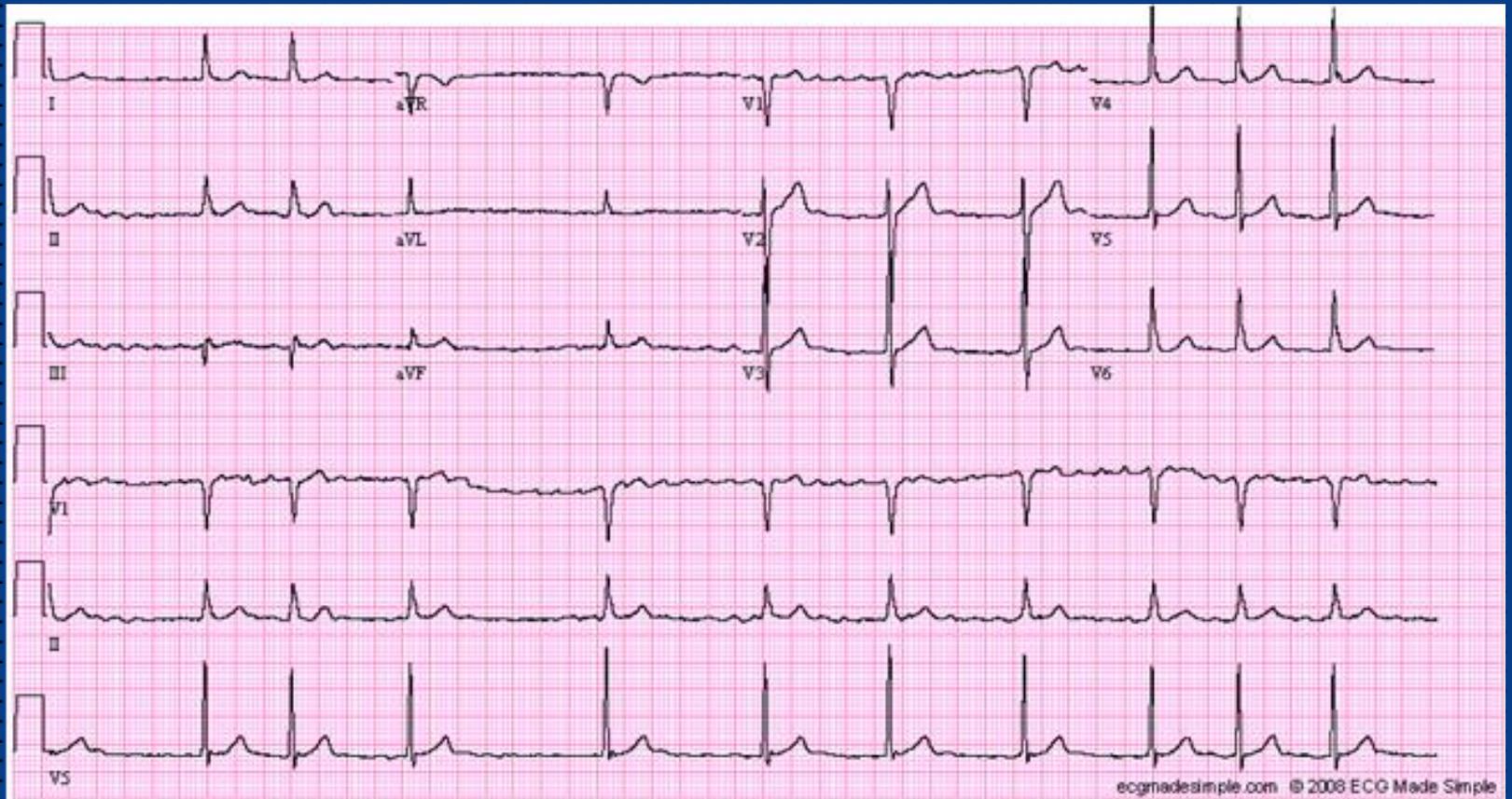
- ▣ Labs Today at your Office:
- ▣ troponin 0.08
- ▣ CPK- 908
- ▣ TSH- 2.11
- ▣ BNP- 978
- ▣ Urine drug screen- Positive Cannabis
- ▣ Sodium 139, Potassium 5.1, Chloride 26, Bicarb 21, BUN 39, Creatinine 2.2, Glc 77

# How we built Simulation into our Curriculum?

- ▣ After the Simulation was conducted by the student, they wrote up findings SOAP Note.
  - They could use books, references
  - No phones though (had a student text another student)



# Simulation Day-Student Ex.



# Simulation Day-Sample Script

- ▣ How much did you drink last night? 4-5 12 oz beers
- ▣ How often do you usually drink? Daily
- ▣ Do you use any other drugs besides marijuana? No
- ▣ How much marijuana do you use? A dime bag every other day
- ▣ Have you ever tried to stop drinking or using drugs? No

# Simulation Day-Sample Script

- ▣ Have you ever had withdrawal symptoms? No
- ▣ How long have you noticed the shortness of breath? A little on yesterday, but primarily this am.
- ▣ How many pillows do you sleep on at night?  
One
- ▣ Have you increased the number of pillows recently? Yes, I am using 2 now.
- ▣ Do you weigh yourself at least three times per week? No

# Simulation Day-Sample Script

HTN	Yes, 2012
DM	Yes, 2012
CHF	Yes, EF 35% 2013
CKD	Yes, stage 3, 2013
CAD	No

# Debrief

- ▣ Individual debriefs, one on one
- ▣ Review strengths
- ▣ Review Gaps
- ▣ Suggest opportunities for growth, improvements

# Debrief

- ❑ What do you think you did well?
- ❑ What areas could you have improved on?
- ❑ What would you do differently next time?



# After Debrief

- ▣ Graded Scenarios and emailed the student Pass or Fail within 2 days.
  - If fail, tell them why and what they missed or did wrong.
  - Most of them knew (internally) anyways after the debrief

# Sample Grading Rubric

Physical	HEENT (total of 2 pts; each is worth 0.67 pt)	NCAT
		PERRLA
		Fundi: cotton wool exudate
	Neck (total of 2 pts; each is worth 1 pt)	JVD Positive
		No adenopathy, supple
	Lungs (2 pts)	Bilateral rales
	CV (2 pts)	Irregular rate, S3

# Simulation Schedules

- ▣ For one faculty person
  - Can run about 12 a day
  - 45 minutes each

# Findings

- ▣ N = 37
- ▣ 84% agreed that Simulation was realistic
- ▣ 97% agreed that Simulation scenarios were appropriate to their level of learning

# Findings

- ▣ 94% agreed that the objective of Simulation was clearly stated
- ▣ 84% agreed that improved their confidence
- ▣ 91% agreed that de-briefing helped them learn

# Findings

- ▣ 62% agreed that Simulation should be offered in beginning of semester
  - Now we offer an optional on-campus session to practice Simulation one week prior to the semester onset
  
- ▣ 75% agreed that Simulation should be offered several times during semester

# Findings

- ▣ 88% agreed that they were prepared for Simulation scenarios through clinical and course work.
- ▣ 54% agreed that Simulation was enjoyable
- ▣ 85% agreed that the Demonstration module was helpful and eased their comfort in Simulation (five students said no, probably those that failed more than twice, took an incomplete)

# Lessons Learned

- ▣ IT WORKED.....
- ▣ Ensuring the Scenarios are scripted tightly
- ▣ Ensuring the Scenarios are competency based
- ▣ Managing student anxiety
- ▣ Managing student failures
- ▣ Scheduling repeaters
  - 7 repeaters
  - 5 took Incompletes

# What is next?

- ▣ Simulation check offs in 5 NP Clinical Courses
- ▣ Develop more Scenarios
- ▣ Continue to refine the Process and Scenarios
- ▣ Continue to collect data

# Questions

