

RUN LEARNING AND TEACHING AWARDS 2023

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Title: Developing culturally safe practice in undergraduate pharmacy students during interdisciplinary hospital simulations

Application Category: Innovation and Learning

Abstract: Preparing health students for work-readiness is essential, to mitigate the stress and uncertainty associated with transitioning from university to the workforce. Exposure to realistic Code Black (aggressive patient) simulations in a safe environment with psychological and professional support may help students develop their confidence in these situations.

Centred on studio-based learning (or SBL), this project is rooted in the apprentice model of learning, encouraging learning by doing under the supervision of registered pharmacists and nurses. Developed in conjunction with practicing health professionals in the School of Health at UNE, this formative task aimed to provide a realistic learning opportunity using hospital simulation patients and exposed students to different cultural scenarios in preparation for clinical practice.

Conceptually, this exercise challenges students' unconscious bias and encourages them to be confident in their clinical decision-making within a multidisciplinary team. Students report feeling confronted and challenged during the management of these scenarios, in a safe and manageable environment.