

COVID-19



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Background: In the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, a critical shortage of personnel was reported, and many healthcare facilities were unable to meet the needs of their patients. Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN/LVNs) are a vital part of the healthcare workforce and play a significant role in patient care. However, the impact of the pandemic on the LPN/LVN workforce has not been fully explored. **Purpose:** We sought to explore the experiences of LPN/LVNs working in long-term care facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Background

Simulation-based education (SBE) is broadly defined as an experiential-based education or training method during which students practice and acquire specific skills in real-life situations and enhance their transition to practice (Morse et al., 2019). It allows students to hone their skills in terms of both frequent and rare events in spaces that resemble or simulate clinical practice environments (Lavoie & Clarke, 2017). It may involve the use of high-fidelity manikins, low-fidelity manikins, standardized patients, or virtual environments (Bryant et al., 2020). The adoption of SBE has steadily increased (Smiley, 2019) since Hayden et al.'s (2014) landmark study that compared student learning outcomes conducted within in-person simulated and traditional clinical environments among prelicensure registered nursing students and since the subsequent release of NCSBN's simulation guidelines for prelicensure nursing programs (Alexander et al., 2015). The study and guidelines together suggest that high-fidelity simulated clinical experiences may be substituted for up to half of traditional clinical hours while maintaining end-of-program education outcomes and students' readiness to practice.

In parallel to the growth of SBE, virtual clinical simulation has experienced a less pronounced but similar trend.

Results

Descriptive Summary

As depicted in Table 1, the mean score for the total score was 59.6 (SD=17.4), with a range of 23.1 to 83.1. The mean score for the subscale of professional judgment was 27.4 (SD=11.2), with a range of 14.2 to 41.4. The mean score for the subscale of clinical judgment was 23.1 (SD=10.8), with a range of 11.9 to 33.8. The mean score for the subscale of ethical judgment was 7.2 (SD=5.7), with a range of 5.9 to 14.3. The mean score for the subscale of legal judgment was 5.9 (SD=2.6), with a range of 5.9 to 14.3. The mean score for the subscale of moral judgment was 14.3 (SD=3.0), with a range of 11.9 to 16.7.

utilized videos, including online videos, to support VCS, and a smaller proportion (33.0%, *n*

they used a variety of methods under the umbrella term *virtual simulation*. These include videos, virtual or augmented reality, online software packages, etc. To date, none of these approaches have been evaluated in the same rigorous manner as high-fidelity SBE (Hayden et al., 2014). Taken together with related studies on the topic (Kaminski-Ozturk & Martin, 2023; Martin et al., 2023), it is clear that there are inconsistent definitions and implementa-

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Conflicts of Interest: None.

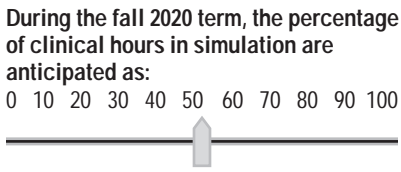
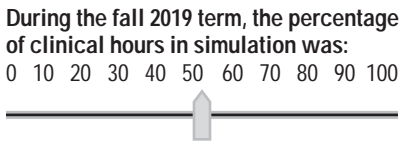
A1. Survey Invitation

Appendix A1: Survey Invitation
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Clinical Course Curriculum

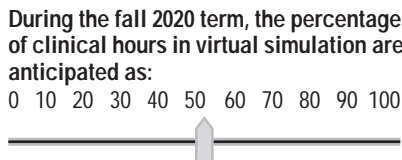
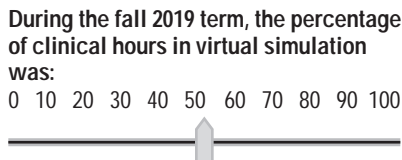
The following items focus on the percentage of clinical hours offered through simulation.

5. With regard to your clinical courses, what percentage of clinical hours were completed in simulation during the fall 2019 term and what percentage of clinical hours in simulation are anticipated during the fall 2020 term.



6. With regard to your clinical courses, do you plan to offer high fidelity virtual simulation instruction (e.g. computer-based simulation, virtual reality, virtual simulation, virtual reality simulation, augmented reality, etc...) during the fall 2020 term?
- Yes
 No

- 6a. [If 6. = Yes] With regard to your clinical courses, what percentage of clinical hours were completed in virtual simulation during the fall 2019 term and what percentage of clinical hours in virtual simulation are anticipated during the fall 2020 term.



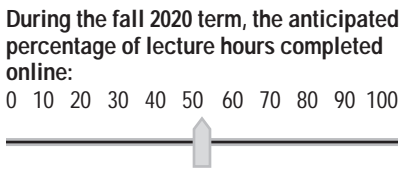
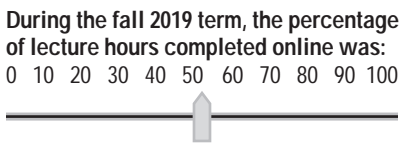
- 6b. [If 6. = Yes] With regard to completing clinicals in virtual simulation, which (if any) of the following formats have your faculty utilized?

- (Please check all that apply)*
- Watching videos
 - Perform simulations with instructions from students who view them from a screen in another location
 - Augmented reality, with technology like Google Glasses
 - Augmented reality, with multidimensional computer screens
 - Online software packages, such as web-based branching narratives, where students make decisions
 - Other (please explain) _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - None of these

Didactic course curriculum

The next items are related to the percentage of online instruction associated with didactic course curriculum.

7. With regard to your didactic (lecture-style) courses, what percentage of the didactic curriculum was completed online prior during the fall 2019 term, and what percentage is anticipated to be completed online during the fall 2020 term.



8. Have you received additional funding or resources to enact curricular changes during the fall 2020 term?

- (Please check all that apply)*
- Yes, we received additional funding.
 - Yes, we received additional resources (e.g., formal training, new and/or updated software or equipment)
 - No we have not received any additional funding or resources.
 - No we have not enacted any pandemic-related changes for the fall 2020 term.
 - Other (please specify) _____
 - _____
 - _____

9. Do you have any comments or concerns you would like to add?

Survey Completion

Thank you for your feedback. Your feedback is critical to the development of the COVID-19 adaptive curriculum.