Name That Safety Issue
Recognizing Lapses in Safe Care

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Background and Significance

- Nurses must maintain a safe environment for healthcare consumers

- Beginning in Fundamentals, nursing students are introduced to the KSA to create a safe environment

- Basic skills include hand hygiene, patient identification, fall precautions and communication
The purpose of this study was to compare the different levels of pre-licensure nursing students at a baccalaureate program and their ability to recognize and identify safety concerns.
Methods

- A graduating senior nursing student volunteered to be videotaped while interacting with a simulated client.
- She was requested to make safety errors while delivering care.
- The video was shown to four levels of nursing students and they were asked to identify safety concerns.
- The assignment was voluntary, anonymous and not graded.
10 Imbedded Errors

- Lack of hand hygiene
- No introduction
- Did not check 2 patient identifiers-used wrong name
- Side rails down
- Bed in high position
- No SBAR
- No read back
- Incomplete order
- No ID before med
- No allergy check
Results

- 173 students completed assignment
- No one identified all 10 errors
- 2nd semester seniors recognized the most errors
- Only 35% recognized lack of hand hygiene
Results

- 82% recognized lack of 2 identifiers
  - 90% First semester Jr
  - 88% Second semester Jr
  - 57% First semester Sr
  - 94% Second semester Sr

- Overall most commonly recognized issue was leaving the side rail down
Discussion

- Voluntary, low stakes assignment

- First semester Juniors most focused on the “correct” method of assessment, lowest at identifying problems with calling the HCP

- Second semester Seniors had just completed their practicum and were strongest in this area
Implications for Nursing Education

- Continuous reinforcement of providing a safe patient environment in needed

- Nursing students need practice in identifying safety concerns

- Lack of hand hygiene continues to be a major concern