



# Name That Safety Issue

## Recognizing Lapses in Safe Care



**Judy Duvall, EdD (c), RN  
Rachel Hall, MSN, RN, WHNP-BC  
Tennessee Technological University  
Whitson-Hester School of Nursing**

# 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

# Purpose



- 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

# Video



# Results



- 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
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 is needed
- Nursing students need practice in identifying safety concerns
- Lack of hand hygiene continues to be a major concern