

Professional Practice Gap and Learning Outcome Examples

First Example

B. Description of the professional practice gap (e.g. change in practice, problem in practice, opportunity for improvement)

Describe the current state:

Some nurses have a limited knowledge regarding the risk factors associated with infants presenting with sudden unexpected infant death or SIDS. In addition, some nurses may have a limited knowledge regarding education of parents'/care givers regarding how to decrease the risk of SUIDS/SIDS.

Describe the desired state:

Nurses will be knowledgeable regarding the risks of SUIDS/SIDS and will be well versed in the educational needs and education opportunities for parents'/care givers of infants regarding the reduction of the SUIDS/SIDS.

1.6 Learning Outcomes Desired learning outcome(s) (What will the outcome be as a result of participation this activity?): (You have the option of including a global outcome or outcomes for individual sessions.)

1.6 Learning Outcomes Desired learning outcome(s)

Nurses will have increased knowledge regarding the problems and causes related to sudden unexpected infant death (SUID), the types of sudden unexpected infant deaths (SUID's): the statistics related to the incidences in Bexar County, the use of safe sleep practices to reduce the risk for sudden unexpected sleep-related infant and the benefits of implementing a hospital-based infant sleep safety program.

Second Example

B. Description of the professional practice gap

Describe the current state:

Nurses have various experiences and levels of knowledge in caring for stroke patients depending on where they work. Nurses are expected to remain current on the most recent treatment modalities and medications.

Describe the desired state:

Improvement of patient outcomes and nursing care delivery through evidence-based education related to the stroke patient.

1.6 Learning Outcomes Desired learning outcome(s)

Learners will be able to verbalize current treatment recommendations and integrate them into the current practice. Learners will be able to verbalize current pharmacological treatment options in the treatment of stroke patients and integrate them into their practice. Learners will understand the treatment of the pregnant patient presenting with stroke like symptoms. Participant interaction with faculty during case studies and lecture of quality measures.

Third Example

B. Description of the professional practice gap

Describe the current state:

1. Sepsis continues to be a major cause of morbidity and mortality in the United States, and current best recommendations for treatment continue to change and evolve.
2. Patient crowding due to a decrease in acute care beds and staffing challenges leads to increased numbers of boarded patients in the ED where nurses are required to deliver inpatient level care to sick ICU vented patients in the ED
3. Recent events related to professional sports has led to an increased recognition of the incidence of concussion and potential long term effects of this injury
4. Recent research in trauma care has led to the change in the traditional ABC approach to trauma, recognizing the importance of prioritizing management of major hemorrhage
5. Nurses caring for burned patients face many challenges in terms of wound care and assessment, fluid resuscitation and identifying resources and options for transfer to tertiary care

Describe the desired state:

1. ED nurses will recognize best practice options for rapid identification of sepsis and priorities for treatment
2. ED Nurses will acquire increased comfort and expertise in managing patients with respiratory failure requiring intubation and ventilation management
3. ED nurses will be better able to recognize concussion and state best options for acute management and long term referral options for follow up

Describe identified gap (describe overall purpose of activity):

1. This intent of this conference is to increase awareness and knowledge related to care of ED patients experiencing sepsis, respiratory failure and trauma; specifically, head trauma, burns and hemorrhage.

1.6 Learning Outcomes Desired learning outcome(s)

At the end of the conference, nurses will:

- state having increased knowledge of methods to better identify and treat patients presenting with sepsis
- report increased comfort with care of vented patient in ED setting
- state increased understanding of acute management and long term care of the concussed patient
- state best practice for management and prioritization of care of hemorrhage in the trauma patient
- state increased knowledge of acute care of burn patient and indications for transfer to tertiary care

Fourth Example

B. Description of the professional practice gap

Describe the current state:

Emergency Nurses deal with a variety of challenges in their daily practice. These challenges can take a toll on the nurse's ability to display empathy to patients. ED nurses are expected to be able to provide high quality CPR to ensure good patient outcomes. Research shows that healthcare providers do a poor job of chest compressions which results in poor patient outcomes. Summer emergencies include trauma and near drowning which may not be seen frequently in the attendee's facility. Advocacy is a responsibility of registered nurses and many nurses may not be aware of current legislative issues that nurses can impact. Blast injuries can result from accidental or intentional acts and manifest in multiple types of injuries.

Describe the desired state:

Emergency Nurses are able to identify resources and share that information with colleagues and administrators at their facilities to implement current best practices and evidence based practice regarding the issues identified in the practice gap

1.6 Learning Outcomes Desired learning outcome(s)

Participants will identify at least one best practice in the empathetic care of the Trauma or Near drowning or blast injury patient. Participants will identify ways to use Just In Time training to coach healthcare providers to provide high quality CPR. Participants will verbalize at least one method of legislative advocacy for issues pertaining to emergency nursing. emergency nursing

Fifth Example

B. Description of the professional practice gap

Describe the current state:

The number of lectures in the area which have included the role of the nurse in radiology or forensic radiology has been limited. Therefore, there are a limited number of nurses who are knowledgeable about this subject.

Describe the desired state:

Nurses will have increased knowledge of forensic radiology in relation to ER Nursing including new technologies, combining CT and MR imaging, forensic dental radiography, identification of gunshot patterns, and the role of the ED nurse in identifying drugs in relation to radiology support.

1.6 Learning Outcomes Desired learning outcome(s)

Emergency and other nurses will have increased knowledge of forensic radiology in relation to ER Nursing including new technologies, combining CT and MR imaging, forensic dental radiography, identification of gunshot patterns, and the role of the ED nurse in identifying drugs in relation to radiology support

Sixth Example

B. Description of the professional practice gap

Describe the current state:

Forensic Nurse Examiners (FNEs) and Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs) provide medical and forensic care to patients that have experienced sexual violence. FNEs and SANE nurses provide emergency contraception (EC) and prophylaxis for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) during the medical forensic sexual assault examination.

Describe the desired state:

Forensic Nurse Examiners and SANEs will increase their knowledge of emerging trends in STIs and the current prophylaxis recommendations. FNEs and SANEs will learn about the various types of emergency contraception and recommendations for use following sexual assault. Increased knowledge and understanding of the information will assist the FNEs and SANEs to improve their patient teaching at the conclusion of the exam.

1.6 Learning Outcomes Desired learning outcome(s)

The training will equip FNEs and SANEs with necessary education and resources needed to care for patients that have experienced sexual violence. The training will increase knowledge of emerging trends in Sexually Transmitted Infections, medications for prophylaxis and Emergency Contraception.

Sample Outcome Measures

- ❖ Do you feel you can achieve the learner outcomes stated in the activity? If Yes, why. If No, why?
- ❖ Do you feel participating in this activity will improve your performance in your profession? If Yes, why. If No, why?
- ❖ Identify at least one thing you are going to change/ implement in your practice as a result of participating in this activity.