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Nursing Students' Perceptions Of Using Smartphones In The Community Practicum

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Abstract

Smartphones have the potential to revolutionize the way in which nurses practice by facilitating access to evidence-based resources, however their integration in nursing practice remain variable. Millennials tend to be more comfortable with technology, yet find themselves limited in their ability to use smartphones within the context of clinical practice. Using a qualitative descriptive design, we explored nursing students' perceptions of using smartphones in the community practicum. The sample consisted of 8 undergraduate and graduate students. Results indicated that the variability in support for the use of smartphones cause nursing students to adapt their use of technology depending on their perceptions of acceptability. Students working in environments that do not support the use of smartphones experience fear of negative consequences to their performance evaluations, whereas environments that embrace the use of smartphones are perceived to promote professional engagement and improve patient care. Students' narratives describe feeling stuck between these two paradigms, where unclear expectations regarding the use of smartphones force them to adopt individualized strategies to maintain their professional image and avoid negative consequences. A cultural shift will be required at the academic and organizational levels if we are to foster acceptance of smartphones in community practice going forward.

Image

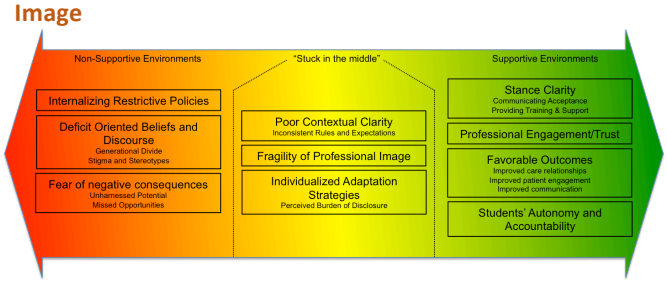


Figure 1: Context continuum: perception of acceptability

Recent Publications

1. Beauregard P, Arnaert A, Ponzoni N (2017) Nursing students' perceptions of using smartphones in the community practicum: a qualitative study. Nurse Education Today 53:1-6.



Biography

Philippe Beauregard is a Registered Critical Care Nurse with 4 years of professional experience in e-learning as well as corporate learning and development. Aspiring to develop a strong clinical expertise, Philippe is slowly forging his nursing care path in fields that include intensive care, emergency nursing, neurology, community health, and nursing education technologies. Philippe's long term ambitions include healthcare education and nursing research. His excellent communication skills make him a unique facilitator.

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Notes/Comments: