



THINKING SKILLS STUDENTS NEED TO EXCEL IN THE CLINICAL SETTING

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Health care facilities are demanding that their workforce possess the ability to critically think in real-time at the bedside. Nursing programs must consider which dedicated and well-planned activities should be used to develop higher-level thinking in nursing students. The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Practice Analysis gives nurse educators clear insight into the information that nurses will need during the first 12 months of their professional practice. Carroll Community College transitioned to evaluating student's thinking in the clinical area by asking high-level Socratic questions during the clinical day versus using the paperwork students submitted after their clinical day. The goal is to determine if the student has the ability to articulate what the patient needs at the point-of-care. Clinical faculty use targeted questions and activities that reflect the NCSBN Practice Analysis as well as priority nursing care. This presentation will demonstrate how to create targeted and embedded clinical activities that create and build student critical thinking and judgement skills.