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Students and Educators Teaching and Learning Experiences in the Skills Laboratories: A Developing World Perspective

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Introduction: Simulation laboratories help students build a strong foundation of clinicalcompetence in a stress free environment. Paucity of research findings on this subject fromnursing education institutions in resource constrained countries exists. An evaluation study wa therefore conducted at Kamuzu University of Health Sciences. The purpose of the study was to explore experiences of students and educators on teaching and learning in a college-based skills laboratories. Data were collected through in-depth and focus group interviews from nurse educators (n=6) respectively and students (n=45) using an interview guide. Seven focus groups were conducted with students and six in-depth interviews with nurse educators. Data were managed using a MAXQDA software and analysed thematically. Ethical approval was from University of Witwatersrand and College of Medicine Research Ethics Committees. Findings showed that demonstrations, return demonstrations, practice sessions and resources contribute effectively mto learning. Hasty demonstrations, limited practice time and in adequate resources affect learning negatively. Conclusion: Increasing practice sessions, increasing staff and resources can improve thequality of learning.

Biography

Annie Msosa is an academic member in the School of Nursing, specifically in the ClinicalNursing Department, Lilongwe campus. She has been a researcher in the higher education sector as well as in the clinical health sector. She obtained her PhD in 2017 from University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa. Currently, she is serving as the deputy head for the Clinical Nursing Studies Department and is responsible for coordinating all clinical learning experiences for all students in collaboration with the head of department. She is also a reviewer for the International Journal of African Nursing Sciences.