

Homestead Sets Up Virtual Clinic for the VN students

Nursing Education During the Pandemic

Homestead Schools is aware that many nursing schools and programs are facing challenges in providing formal external clinical education to their enrolled students due to limitations attributable to COVID-19. Essentially many clinical sites for nursing students are closed due to safety concerns for students and patients. COVID-19 pandemic has radically impacted our society in many ways, including how we deliver education.

Board of Vocational Nursing expects that each program director develop and implement a plan for any clinical site closures that will impact students' program completion.

In response Homestead Schools has set up a virtual clinic at the school for students to continue gaining nursing skills ensuring optimal regulatory compliance and achievement of Board-approved clinical and theory objectives.

The goal of the virtual clinic is to use simulation as a teaching strategy to mirror real-life situations and complement clinical education that will allow students to learn by doing and by reflecting on their experience. Simulations and case scenarios are designed to enhance problem-solving and decision-making skills. The experience in the simulation lab prepares our nursing students to:

1. Adapt care to meet the needs of a variety of patients in a range of settings
2. Utilize available resources and standard practices to provide safe patient care
3. Communicate in a professional manner with patients, family members, and the healthcare team
4. Collaborate with an inter- and intra-professional team
5. Demonstrate clinical competence through repeated and deliberate practice
6. Integrate theory and practice to prioritize and implement evidence-based care
7. Use reflection to self-analyze performance

During simulation experiences, nursing students take charge of patient care and work through scenarios to practice critical thinking, communication, assessment, delegation and teamwork.

Description of the Simulation lab

This simulation lab mimics a hospital setting that is fully equipped to practice fundamentals of nursing, pharmacology, mental health, medical-surgical nursing, and maternity and pediatric nursing clinical skills. Strategically embedded cameras and microphones capture student interactions with simulated patients.

The school has purchased one Nursing Anne Simulator®, one Maternal and Neonatal Birthing Simulator- Advanced Lucy® for maternal newborn nursing simulation, and Nursing Kid Vital Sim Capable® for pediatric nursing.

1. *Nursing Anne Simulator®*



Nursing Anne Simulator offers safe and realistic practice on core nursing skills – from basic assessments and critical thinking to advanced interventions.

Nursing Anne Simulator is a modular platform consisting of a variety of accessories and interchangeable parts to provide unique training opportunities. This simulator can be used as a highly realistic female simulator as well as a skills trainer. It provides clinical realism and promotes critical thinking skills with dynamic monitoring and patient interaction.

2. *Maternal and Neonatal Birthing Simulator–Advanced Lucy®*

Provides a comprehensive and realistic birthing experience from prenatal to postnatal delivery scenarios including normal and abnormal deliveries.

3. *Nursing Kid Vital Sim Capable®*

This is a training manikin realistically representing a six-year-old child. Designed for skill and scenario-based training for the care and management of a variety of pediatric in-hospital patients. Training includes sound auscultation, IV cannulation, urinary catheterization, and general pediatric patient care.

4. *vSims*

The school has also purchased vSims developed by Laerdal Medical and Wolters Kluwer Health for the fundamentals of nursing, maternity and pediatric nursing to reinforce scenarios presented in the clinical simulation lab.

Like our Sims Lab, vSims are designed to simulate real nursing scenarios and to develop clinical decision-making skills, competence, and confidence in nursing students.

Homestead Schools is starting two full-time VN classes, one in February and the other in March. We invite you to come and visit our virtual clinic. The school is located at 23800 Hawthorne Blvd., Ste 200, Torrance, CA 90505 (310) 791-9975.