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WHO WILL BE FIRST 2 ACT TO RECOGNIZE AND TREAT THE DETERIORATING PATIENT?
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Abstract Content: Background: Management of deteriorating patients can be influenced by education and past experience; however many nursing students have not cared for a patient who suddenly deteriorates. Simulation education interventions may assist students to develop leadership, teamwork and situation awareness required to effectively recognise and treat the deteriorating patient. This paper reports on a component of a larger research program funded by the Australian Teaching and Learning Council (ALTC).

Method: In a mixed method study, students undertook video-recorded simulated clinical practice exercises where actors substituted real patients with deteriorating cardiac, shock and respiratory conditions. Leadership was assigned to each student in turn and knowledge, clinical performance, teamwork and situation awareness were evaluated using multiple choice questions, standard checklist, TEAM score-sheet and situation awareness questions respectively.

Preliminary Findings: 97 students from 3 universities completed the study, 50 % had not cared for a deteriorating patient previously. Participant knowledge was correlated with better clinical performance (cardiac \(p<=.01\), shock \(p<=.05\)) and situation awareness was correlated with better clinical performance for shock (\(p<=.01\)). Ratings for non-technical performance were correlated with clinical performance (\(p<=.01\)).

Conclusion: This paper will extend beyond the preliminary findings and explore individual factors that may predict leadership, teamwork and situation awareness in management of the deteriorating patient.

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Presenting Author Bio 1: Fiona has clinical experience in midwifery and neonatal nursing and, over the last 25 years has been involved with the tertiary education of nurse and midwives. She joined the University of Queensland in 2005 as Bachelor of Nursing (BN) Program Director and pioneered the establishment of the first contemporary Bachelor of Midwifery (BMid) program in Queensland. She is currently the Director of Research, and an investigator with the ALTC funded First2Act project.

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Keywords: deteriorating patient, leadership, teamwork