

Jesuit Values Guiding Clinical Decision Making

Jesuit Values

Education programs at Xavier University are founded on Jesuit Values, which guide faculty, administration, and staff to support students inside the classroom and in the real-world. While completing their nursing education, students at Xavier University are also guided on how to integrate Jesuit Values into their daily practice. While students may have a strong grasp on these values, there is often a disconnect regarding how these can be used in healthcare practice.

Clinical Decision Making

Clinical decision making is a crucial skill which students must learn within their nursing program to then master as a practicing nurse. Clinical decision making allows for students to incorporate their clinical knowledge, assessment skills, and reliable evidence to make the best decisions when caring for a patient. Within this process, nurses should utilize their interdisciplinary team as well as the patient and their family to determine the best care plan.

Project Background and Implementation

Students in a graduate pre-licensure nursing program are required to take a Leadership and Management course within their curriculum with an emphasis on clinical nurse leader certification post-graduation. Within this course, the foundations of the program are reinforced as students move away from task-oriented thinking in a clinical setting, to using their clinical decision-making skills in a leadership capacity. At the end of the semester students engage in an integrative activity in the simulation lab where they

take on the roles of the bedside registered nurse partnered with the unit's clinical nurse leader to facilitate nursing rounds for patients in an emergency room setting. Students are accompanied by an interdisciplinary team represented by nursing faculty and Xavier University alumni. In these scenarios they focus less on the tactical bedside care for the patient and more on the skills to set the patient up for success now and in the future once they return to the community. While incorporating their clinical judgment to guide patient care, students are encouraged to pull on their Jesuit Values to provide holistic and comprehensive care. This project aims to determine the comfort level of students with using these values in their clinical practice. To obtain a baseline for implementation in Fall 2024, students in the Fall 2023 cohort were asked the questions outlined in Figure 1.1 as part of their post-activity worksheet. These are the same questions which will be answered by students in the Fall 2024 cohort during implementation of the project. Changes from the baseline group to the implementation group include enhanced discussion of Jesuit Values throughout the designated course as well as specific callouts to Jesuit Values within the Canvas course.

Discussion

Full impact of this study will be determined after collecting data in Fall 2024. Outcomes of this study will not only guide course formatting for the Leadership and Management course, but all other courses within the nursing program.

Figure 1.1

7. How did you apply the values of Jesuit education to this experience?

8. On a scale of 1-5 (scale provided below) – how confident do you feel about applying the values of Jesuit education into your nursing practice? **Provide rationale for your selection.**
 - 1= Not at all confident
 - 2 = Somewhat confident
 - 3= Not sure
 - 4= Confident
 - 5= Very Confident