Inclusion Criteria

• New graduate pediatric acute care certified APRNs
• New to the specialty of surgery
• Licensed in the state of Florida

Method

Competency-based education modeled in conjunction with:

• National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF) Nurse Practitioner Core Competences
• Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN) project for Core Competencies
• Interprofessional Education Collaborative Expert Panel Core Competencies for Interprofessional Collaborative Practice

Discussions

The role of the APRN has expanded beyond its initial scope since its conception. Graduate training provides an excellent foundation for APRNs however, it is not meeting all the educational demands that today’s APRNs are functioning. Fellowships for APRNs are designed to expand the knowledge and clinical skillset necessary for a provider to succeed with confidence in acute, chronic and specialty based clinical settings.

Limitations

APRN fellowships were developed in 2007, therefore are in the infantile stages of development. There are no pediatric surgical APRN fellowships at this time. The literature is limited on the longitudinal evaluations of current programs. Results demonstrate that due to the small number of accredited ARNP fellowships, a significant growth potential is present to improve post master’s clinical education. Results conclude the need for the development of pediatric surgical APRN fellowships.

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