Back-to-Back Conferences Highlight Clinical Simulation

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Northwest Calif. — Steven and inadequate teaching methods fall short of student needs. UC San Francisco School of Nursing Professor Patricia Denner, RN, PhD, FAAN, FRCN, said at the Nov. 1 Magic in Teaching II Conference at the Hilton/Nevada Frimont.

Three “apprenticeships” — intellectual, practical, and ethical, which were included in the Carnegie Foundation National Nursing Education Study, need to be part of an integrated teaching method that includes patient-focused teaching based on clinical cases, Denner said. She added that she strongly discouraged “teaching to the NCLEX” exam and advocated a broader education for nursing students.

Nursing educators from around the state gathered at the conference, which was followed by the Bay Area Simulation Collaborative’s 1st Annual Clinical Simulation Conference on Nov. 2. Both conferences highlighted clinical simulation, a fairly new teaching modality in nursing that will soon become the standard of practice because it encourages critical thinking, leadership, sound judgment, and effective interpersonal communication.

Hearing that the conference was at the Hilton, some worried about the cost of the conference. But all the rooms were paid for by the conference and the costs were covered.

One attendee commented that she had been to many conferences, but never one that had a hotel room included.

The conference also featured a keynote address by Dr. Patricia Denier, who discussed the importance of clinical simulation in nursing education. She emphasized the need for nurses to be prepared for unpredictable situations and the importance of critical thinking in decision-making.

Denier shared personal stories of her experience in clinical simulation and how it had influenced her teaching practices. She also discussed the benefits of using simulation in nursing education, including improved patient outcomes, increased job satisfaction, and reduced costs.

In conclusion, Denier urged nursing educators to embrace clinical simulation as a tool for improving the quality of patient care and the preparation of nurses for real-world situations.