



Assessing Bachelor of Science in Nursing Students' Perceptions of Social Distancing During COVID-19.

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Clinical Problem

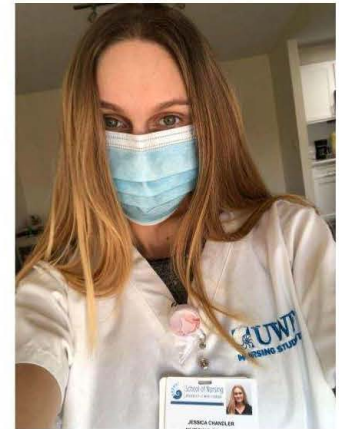
The coronavirus disease has changed the lives of Americans since the day the first case was reported. People lost jobs, and students of all ages were transitioned to an online setting. The online learning environment can be difficult, especially for nursing students who require in-person clinical practice to learn the profession.



Research Strategy

An undergraduate research survey was conducted through Google Forms after Institutional Review Board approval. Student perceptions were measured on the mental health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the use of virtual simulation for the third and fourth-semester traditional Bachelor of Science in Nursing students at the University of West Florida.

Nursing Student Life

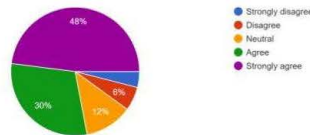


Results

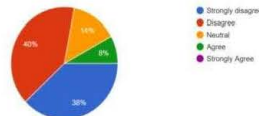
The survey revealed that 78% of the students felt 1) staying or working from home affected personal mental health, and 2) virtual simulations did not prepare students for clinical experience.



Staying or working from home has affected my mental health.
50 responses

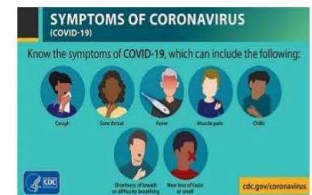


I feel as though the VSimS prepared me for clinical.
50 responses



Implications for Practice

- Although the remote learning was challenging, students gained experience related to adaptability and flexibility.
- Resiliency is a hallmark of nursing.



Resources

DWYDA, E. S. et al. Mental strain and changes in psychological health risk among interim nursing students at pediatric and medical-surgical units amid outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic: A retrospective review. *Nurse Education in Practice*, 61, 1-6, p. 104616, 2020. DOI: 10.1016/j.nep.2020.104616

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijneb.2020.101965>

XAVIER, D. et al. Impact of COVID-19 on the family, social, and academic dynamics of nursing students in Portugal. *Revista de Enfermagem Referência*, 1-1, 1, n. 4, p. 1-9, 2020. DOI: 10.12728/REF.2020.4