

Endoscopy nursing education impact: The portuguese experience

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Presentation

Nurses

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A three-edition endoscopy nursing education program in Portugal trained 59 nurses who implemented quality and safety projects in 30 institutions, with the speaker reporting improvements in patient information, ethical practice, safety checklists, and reprocessing across participating units.

KEY POINTS

- The program focused on three core disciplines: ethics and professional deontology with reflection on ethical problems, investigation methodology and evidence-based practice, and quality improvement requiring students to design projects solving problems in their own units.
- Student projects addressed nursing consultation implementation before and after procedures, endoscopy safety checklist implementation in units that lacked them, reprocessing protocols, microbiological surveillance, bowel preparation, and quality indicators.
- The speaker reported that 15 units now provide better patient information before and after endoscopy, and safety improved across all 30 participating institutions through reprocessing work, safety checklist implementation, and microbiologic surveillance.
- Twelve program graduates were promoted to nurse manager positions, two initiated PhD programs, one group won first prize at Portuguese Digestive Week, and six graduates are pursuing nursing education specialisation.
- The speaker and students are revising the Portuguese endoscopy reprocessing guideline, which the speaker stated is more than 20 years old, with a proposal to be sent to the Minister of Health, and the speaker is writing the first Portuguese-language book on endoscopy nursing competencies.

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