**Innovation**

*An innovation indicates: a new idea or method; doing something altogether different; something that may be new to the particular nursing program or may be new to nursing education in general; a response to the needs of the community, trends in society, and the explosion of knowledge*

1. **Program Name:** The University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing
   **Simulation in Nursing Education – Smart Hospital™**

2. **Type of Nursing Program:** Undergraduate (Baccalaureate/pre-licensure, RN-BSN)/Graduate Programs (MSN, DNP, BSN-PhD, PhD) and online programs including prelicensure BSN, RN-to-BSN and MSN in Nursing Administration

3. **Narrative Description:**
   a) **Standardized Patient Program:** The University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing has a Standardized Patient Program in which individuals hired as casual employees portray the roles of patients and/or family or caregivers in simulated practice scenarios. The program provides comprehensive support to course objectives related to communication, safety, and patient care giving.
   b) **Simulated Practice:** To increase opportunities to learn in risk free environments, The University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing uses simulation as a teaching, learning, and evaluation tool. Technology supporting simulated practice includes, but is not limited to, computer-based clinical problem solving, task trainers, static and interactive mannequins, standardized patients, and virtual reality.
   c) **Smart Hospital™:** This 13,000 square foot facility is a 23-bed simulated hospital. It is equipped with state-of-the-science equipment and furnishings. It supports simulated practice learning for students in all programs and serves as a community resource for educational programs, faculty development, and research.
   d) **Research in the use of simulation** as a teaching/learning/evaluation tool: Projects currently funded and being conducted at The University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing includes: Developing simulation evaluation considerations for Inter-Rater Reliability, use of remote simulation, and serious gaming.
   e) **Simulation Application in Nursing Education** course: A required course for students seeking a master’s degree in Nursing Education is **Simulation Application in Nursing Education**. In the course, students apply simulation and active learning strategies for selected nursing courses.

4. **Effectiveness/Successes of the Innovations:**
   a) The Standardized Patient Program currently employs individuals for use in teaching, learning, and evaluation in both the pre-licensure and graduate nursing programs.
   b) Simulation is integrated into undergraduate clinical courses and has been used to assist in the expansion of capacity of the undergraduate nursing program.
   c) The University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing’s Smart Hospital™ is a Laerdal Center of Educational Excellence (in Simulation), a Hill-Rom National Demonstration Showcase and a Carefusion Nursing Discovery Center.

5. **Plans for New Innovations:**
   a) Development of a first of its kind Simulation Specialist Course to support the needs of other nursing programs moving into simulation.
   b) Implementation of Team Strategies and Tools to Enhance Performance and Patient Safety (TeamSTEPPS) through College of Nursing and community to improve teamwork and communication for better patient safety.

**Innovations: Simulation in Nursing Education – Smart Hospital™**
c) Multi-site, remote team-based training courses.

**Approximate Cost of implementing and maintaining partnership:** N/A

**Expected benefits:** Increased number of BSN prepared nurses; Safe environment for development of individual psychomotor skills and team competencies.

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