

Engagement by Immersion: A Journey Toward Meaningful Outcomes for Patients, Community, and DNP Students

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Introduction

- Immersion and engagement are processes used to increase student involvement in DNP project.
- By increasing student engagement, the hope was to produce projects that were meaningful to the student and stakeholders thereby creating projects that were sustainable

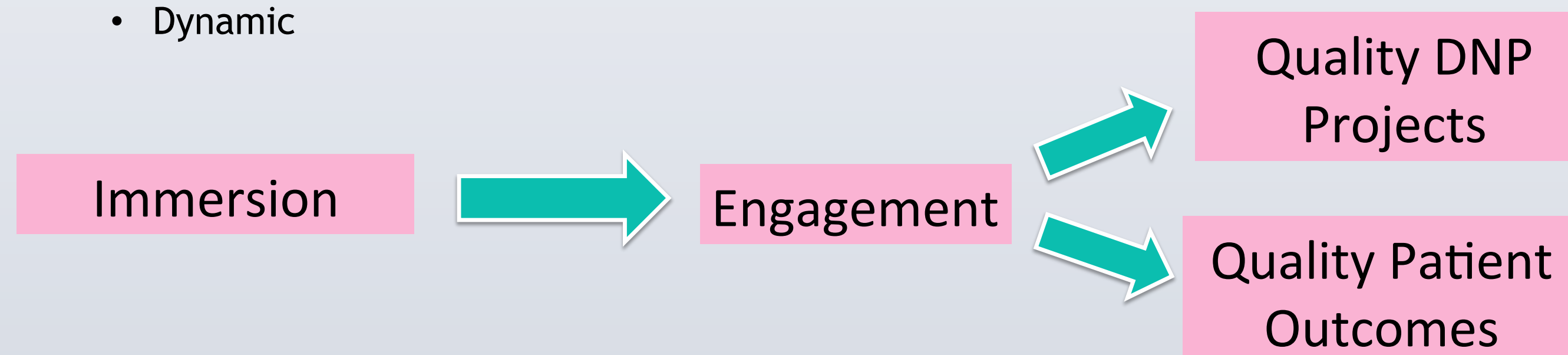
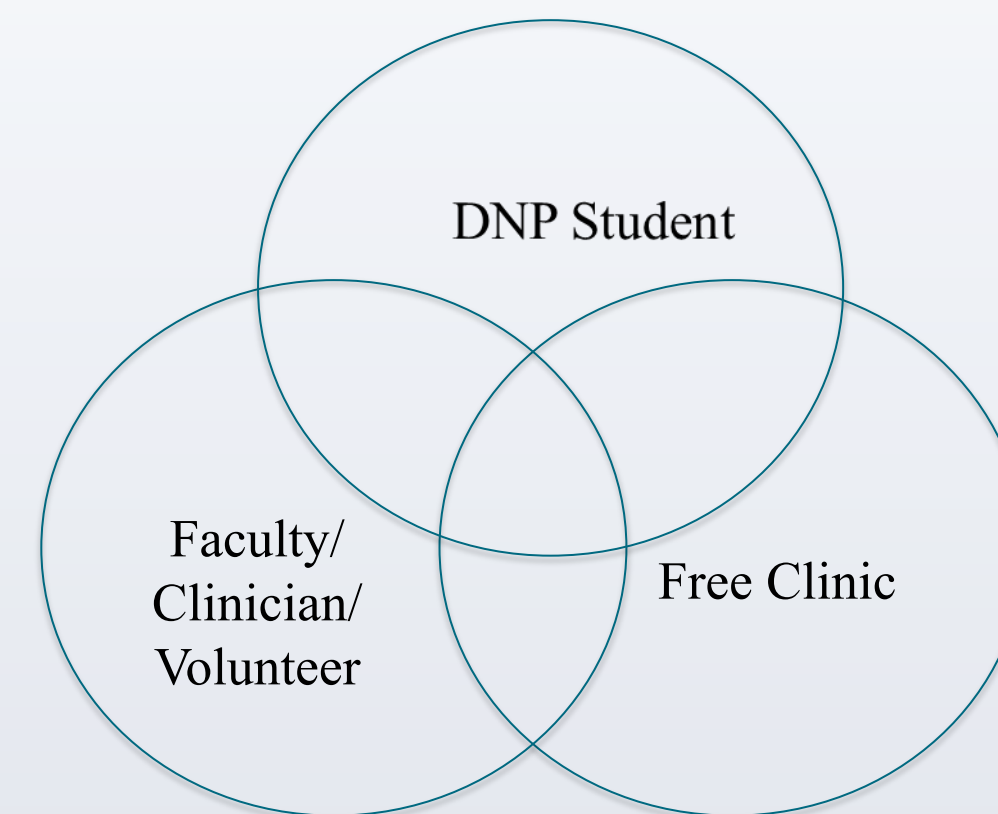


Objectives

- Describe concept of student immersion.
- Describe concept of student engagement.
- Discuss faculty's engagement in process.
- Applying the concepts of student engagement and immersion to the clinical setting in the Doctor of Nursing Program.

Immersion and Engagement

- Immersion
 - Extensive exposure
 - Absorbing involvement
- Engagement
 - Active involvement
 - Positive fulfilling experience
 - Investment
 - Dedication
 - Absorption
 - Dynamic



Application

- Two DNP students volunteered to complete projects in the Free Clinic.
- Each student was immersed into the clinic setting by interviewing and seeing patients, participating on the QI/QA committee as well as board of director meetings.
- Two individual projects were developed with a two pronged approach after evaluating data that had been collected by the QI/QA committee.
- Once each student identified the needs of the clinic, project ideas were presented to the QI/QA committee and Board of Directors for approval.
- Projects focused on the underserved diabetic population based on the identified gaps. One project focused on improving diabetic foot assessment through an educational intervention of a rapid Diabetic Foot Assessment tool for providers. The second project focused on a linguistically tailored diabetic foot self-care education for the Hispanic diabetic patient population.
- The goals of the projects was to improve charting of the diabetic foot assessment among providers and diabetic foot self-care in patients. The long-term goal is to prevent diabetic foot complications from diabetes.

Conclusion

- Increasing engagement by immersing students proved beneficial to the students, the free clinic, and the patients by producing projects that were meaningful to all.
- By increasing engagement, the projects were tailored to the clinic and the population needs which resulted in clinic and patient buy-in making these sustainable projects.
- The unintended outcome is the increase in faculty engagement in the DNP project process, the students, and the free clinic.

References

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