



Using Simulation to Combat Racial Health Disparities

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Project Overview

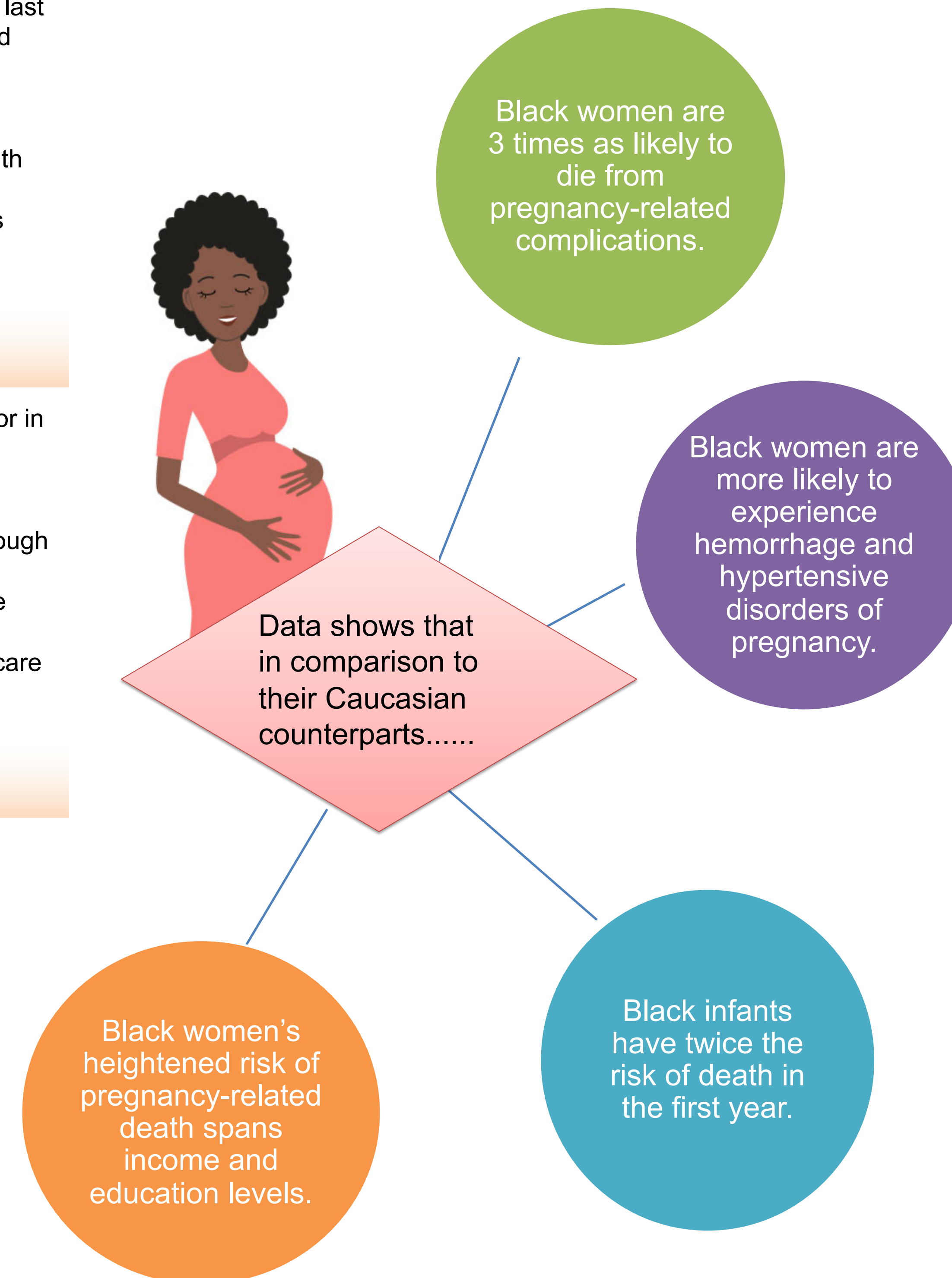
Develop a simulation of a Black female patient to increase awareness and increase sensitivity of students in the BSN program at UT Austin. Statistics as recent as last year show that Black mothers are three times more likely to die both during and after childbirth than their White counterparts. The US boasts the highest maternal mortality rate in the western world, leading other affluent countries like Canada and Australia. Steps to address this disparity which plagues our healthcare system can be taken by increasing the understanding of future health care providers through the use of simulation. In doing so, we hypothesize that students will be empowered and motivated to actively play a role in closing this gap.

Project Goals

1. Provide a safe simulated experience for nursing students with a patient of color in an emergent situation by conducting in person or virtual simulation.
2. Collect data on learner reactions and responses through their nursing intervention choices with evaluations during simulation experience.
3. Identify learner competency gaps related to nursing care of black patients through evaluation of learners during simulation experience.
4. Increase learner confidence in providing general nursing care for black female patients measured by pre/post standardized metrics.
5. Facilitate learners' self-reflection on behaviors and attitudes towards nursing care of black female patients through standardized pre/post debriefing.

Simulation Learning Objectives

1. Identify and address implicit bias within students that will improve patient-provider interactions, health communication, and health outcomes.
2. Self reflection on personal and professional bias towards marginalized communities
3. Increase awareness and comfort level in treating women of color.
4. Utilize clear, concise and comforting patient communication
5. High risk preeclampsia population considerations
6. Understand pathophysiology of pregnancy induced hypertension
7. Interpret signs of preeclampsia in physical findings and lab values
8. Relate indications for ordered medications to pathophysiology, assessment findings, and vital sign changes
9. Interpret pain assessment findings & advocate for pain management.
10. Patient education on condition, medication, and complications of pregnancy hypertension



Completed Steps:

1. Literature and research review
2. Faculty advisement
3. Development of objectives and outcomes
4. Simulation scenario timeline and character scripted
5. Selection of debriefing tool – PEARLS
6. Student Simulation Effectiveness Survey© (SES) Tool completed

Next Steps

1. Pre/Post assessment tool development
2. Debriefing lesson plan development
3. Faculty advisor review and approval of scenario
4. School of Nursing Simulation committee review and approval
5. Pilot scenario with volunteer nursing students
6. Review pre assessment and post assessment data for revisions.

Literature Review

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