

NURS-FPX4905 Assessment 1 Conference Call

Student Name

Capella University

NURS-FPX4905: BSN Capstone Project

Professor Name

Month, Year

Capstone Conference Call and Problem Identification

The capstone project begins with identifying a meaningful healthcare problem and establishing the foundation for the practicum experience. The initial conference call brings together the student, practicum preceptor, and faculty to align on the project's focus and plan. This paper documents the initial conference call, outlining the identified problem, the goals of the capstone project, and the plan for the practicum experience.

Purpose of the Conference Call

The initial conference call brings together the student, practicum preceptor, and faculty to establish the foundation for the capstone project. The purpose is to introduce the participants, clarify expectations and roles, identify the healthcare problem to be addressed, and outline the plan for the practicum experience. This collaborative conversation ensures that all parties share a common understanding of the project and its goals.

Clarifying roles and expectations at the outset is essential to a successful capstone experience. The student, preceptor, and faculty each have distinct roles, and understanding these roles supports effective collaboration throughout the project. By establishing clear expectations, the conference call sets the stage for a productive working relationship.

The conference call also provides an opportunity to discuss the identified healthcare problem and to confirm that it is appropriate for the capstone project. By discussing the problem with the preceptor and faculty, the student can refine their focus and ensure that the project is feasible and meaningful. This early alignment is essential to the success of the capstone project.

Identified Healthcare Problem

The healthcare problem identified for this capstone project is the high rate of hospital readmissions among patients with heart failure. Heart failure readmissions are common, costly, and often preventable, making them a significant target for quality improvement. Many readmissions result from inadequate discharge education, poor medication adherence, and insufficient follow-up care.

This problem is meaningful and relevant, affecting patient outcomes, healthcare costs, and quality of care. Heart failure is one of the leading causes of hospital readmission, and reducing readmissions can improve patient outcomes while reducing costs. The problem is also amenable to nursing intervention, making it an appropriate focus for a nursing capstone project.

Addressing this problem through the capstone project offers an opportunity to apply evidence-based interventions to improve patient outcomes. By focusing on heart failure readmissions, the capstone project addresses a significant healthcare challenge and provides an opportunity to develop and apply skills in problem analysis, intervention design, and quality improvement. This focus aligns the project with both clinical priorities and the goals of the capstone experience.

Goals and Plan for the Practicum

The goals of the capstone project are to analyze the problem of heart failure readmissions, identify evidence-based interventions, and propose a plan to reduce readmissions in the practicum setting. These goals provide a clear direction for the project and define what the student aims to accomplish. By pursuing these goals, the student will address a significant healthcare problem and develop valuable professional competencies.

During the practicum, I will work with the preceptor to assess current practices, engage stakeholders, and develop an intervention proposal. This collaborative work will draw on the expertise of the preceptor and the input of stakeholders, ensuring that the proposed intervention is feasible and relevant. The practicum provides the context for applying the knowledge and skills developed throughout the BSN program.

The plan includes conducting a thorough assessment of the problem, reviewing the literature for best practices, collaborating with the interdisciplinary team, and developing and proposing an evidence-based intervention. Regular communication with the preceptor and faculty will ensure progress and guidance throughout the practicum. This structured plan provides a roadmap for the capstone project and supports its successful completion.

Significance of the Capstone Project

The capstone project represents the culmination of the BSN program, providing an opportunity to integrate and apply the knowledge and skills developed throughout the curriculum. By addressing a real healthcare problem, the project bridges the gap between academic learning and professional practice. This integration is a central purpose of the capstone experience and a valuable preparation for professional nursing.

Focusing the capstone on heart failure readmissions provides an opportunity to address a problem of significant clinical importance. Heart failure is a common and serious chronic condition, and reducing readmissions can substantially improve patients' lives while reducing healthcare costs. By choosing this focus, the project addresses a meaningful problem and provides an opportunity to make a real contribution to improving care.

The project also supports my development as a professional nurse. Through the capstone, I will develop competencies in problem analysis, evidence-based practice, intervention design, and quality improvement. These competencies are essential to professional nursing practice and will serve me throughout my career. The capstone thus serves both to address a healthcare problem and to advance my professional development.

Conclusion

The initial conference call establishes the foundation for the capstone project by clarifying roles, identifying the healthcare problem of heart failure readmissions, and outlining the practicum plan. This collaborative beginning ensures alignment among the student, preceptor, and faculty, setting the stage for a focused, evidence-based capstone experience.

By establishing a clear focus and plan at the outset, the conference call supports the successful completion of the capstone project. The identified problem of heart failure readmissions provides a meaningful, relevant focus, and the structured plan provides a roadmap for addressing it. With this foundation in place, the capstone project is well positioned to apply evidence-based interventions to improve patient outcomes.

References

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. (2020). Preventing avoidable readmissions.

AHRQ. <https://www.ahrq.gov/patient-safety/settings/hospital/red/index.html>

Van Spall, H. G. C., Rahman, T., Mytton, O., Ramasundarahettige, C., Ibrahim, Q., Kabali, C., ... & Connolly, S. (2017). Comparative effectiveness of transitional care services in patients discharged from the hospital with heart failure: A systematic review and network meta-analysis. *European Journal of Heart Failure*, 19(11), 1427–1443. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ejhf.765>

Jackson, B. M., Gutierrez, M. L., & Bryan, K. (2019). Optimizing the transition of care for patients with heart failure. *Critical Care Nursing Clinics of North America*, 31(3), 287–296. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cnc.2019.05.002>