

Improving learning experience in Pharmacology Course among
Nursing Students

Scholarship of Excellence in Teaching Fellowship

MOJGAN AZADI, PH.D/DNP-APRN, CNE, CNE CL, PCCN



#### **PROBLEM**

- -The nursing students success rate was less than 50%
- -The rate of withdrawal from nursing school due to not passing pharmacology course was 18%

### **GOAL**

- Want to improve the success rate among pharmacology students so that increase the success rate and decrease the withdrawal rate



#### **STRATEGIES**

#### FIVE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES

- Small Group Discussion
- Jeopardy Game
- Poster Presentation
- Case Scenario

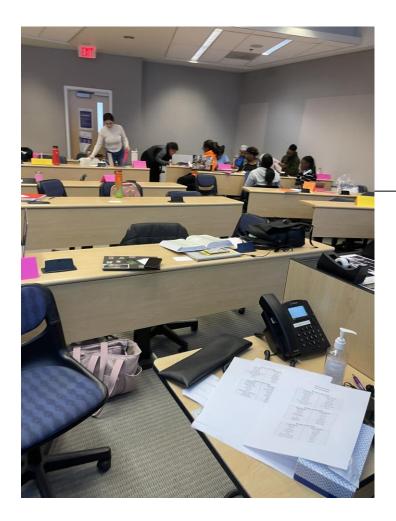
Giving students autonomy to select their methods

"It was suggested that teachers can promote student engagement by using active learning techniques and by intentionally striving to increase students' motivation" (Barkley, 2020, p. 59).



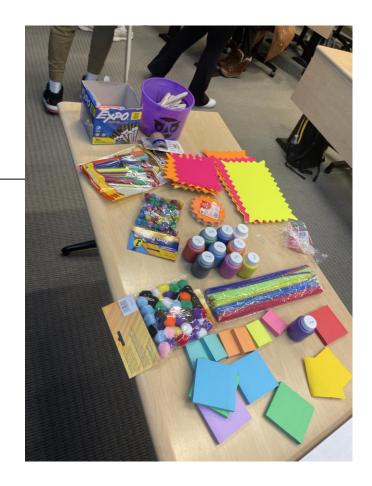
# The Process of Implementation

- -The class was scheduled one day per week for 14 weeks.
- The number of students were 25 students to begin with and decrease to 22 based on students' limitations.
- The class was scheduled for 2 hours
- -A survey was designed to check the students' opinion after each class activity.
- -Four main strategies were used:
- -Poster Presentation
- -Case Scenario Discussion
- -Jeopardy Game
- -Small Group Discussion



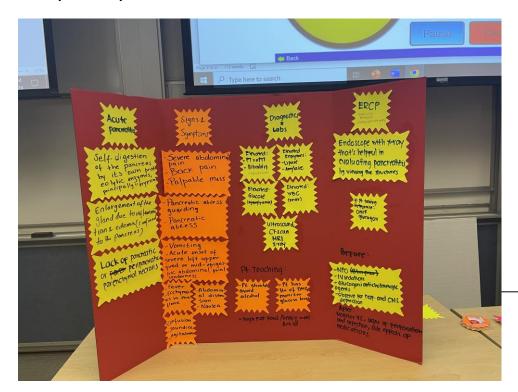
# Student Autonomy to Select their Methods





## **Examples of specific Directions**

-Sample of posters

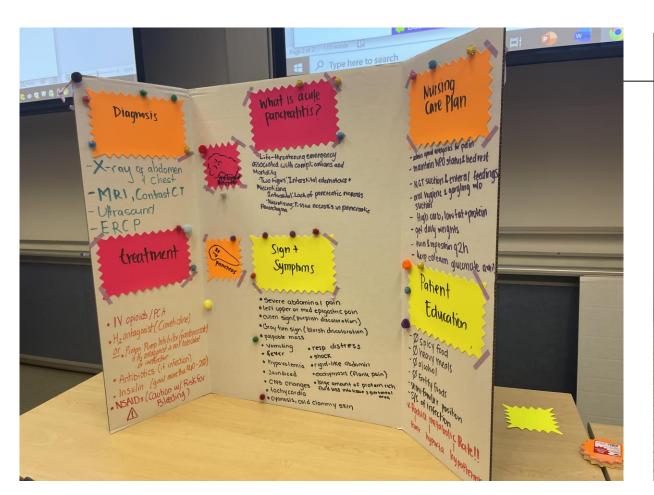


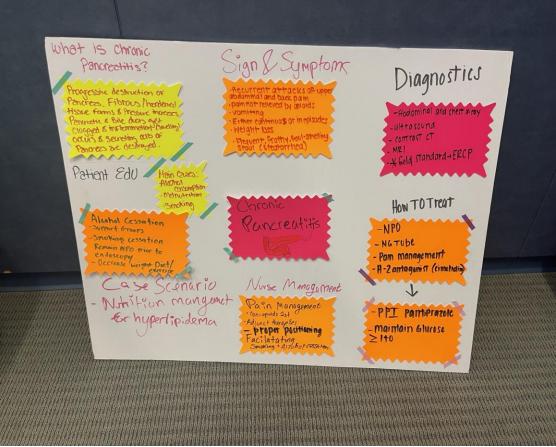


### Rationale

- Reinforces the application of evidence-based practice with constant medical advances
- Increases researcher and learner engagement by learning from others
- The students in pharmacology have problem to learn the materials since they believe they must memorize the information, but I encourage the students to use different strategies in active learning techniques to improve students learning level.







## **Sample of Jeopardy Game**

General Concept	Aspirin	Acetaminophen	NSAIDS	Opioids
100	100	100	100	100
200	200	200	200	200
300	300	300	300	300
400	400	400	400	400
500	500	500	500	500
Team 1				

# Scholarship that Supports my Strategies

#### Promoting active Learning:

- -" Learning is a dynamic process that consists of making sense and meaning out of new information and connecting it to what is already known." (Barkley, 2020, p.86)
- "Be clear on learning goals, if you do not know where are you going how will you know when you get there" (Barkley, 2020, p. 87).
- -" How will I help students learn to learn. To examine and assess their own learning and thinking and to read more effectively, analytically and actively." (Bain, 2004, p.59).

## Nine Books We Have Read in 2024

February 2024—The Miniature Guide to Critical Thinking by Richard Paul and Linda Elder.

March 2024—Teaching Change: How To Develop Independent Thinkers Using Relationships, Resilience, and Reflection by Jose Antonio Bowen

April 2024—Powerful Teaching: Unleash the Science of Learning by Pooja Agarwal and Patrice Bain

May 2024—Student Engagement Techniques 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. by Elizabeth Barkley and Claire Howell Major

August 2024--Teach Students How To Learn: Strategies You Can Incorporate into Any Course to Improve Student Metacognition, Study Skills, and Motivation by Saundra Yancy McGuire September 2024—What the Best College Teachers Do by Stephen Bain

October 2024– Thinking Critically in College: The Essential Handbook for Student Success by Louis Newman.

November 2024—Creating Wicked Students by Paul Hanstedt

December 2024—Teaching with AI: A Practical Guide to a New Era of Human Learning (2024) by Jose Antonio Bowen and C. Edward Watson

# The Assessment Techniques

- Exam Grade- Passing rate

-Course withdraw report

-Survey, post class- One minute paper

## Sample One-minute paper

- What did you find useful about today's session?
- 2. What would you still like to know more about?
- Other comments:

## Students' Feedback

- -"Todays lecture was really informative, I learned how to communicate with my classmates."
- "Class activities made some unclear points, clear."
- -"I love Jeopardy game!"
- -"Jeopardy review was really helpful."
- -" I love class activities, and it helps me to understand the materials."

#### One minute Paper

- 4. What did you find useful about today's session? I felt as though the ppt slides were better than going over the actual book
- 5. What would you still like to know more about? no+ sure ye+
- 6. Other Comments: loved the game at the tod!)

#### One minute Paper

- 1. What did you find useful about today's session?
- I love the game we play at the end.
- 2. What would you still like to know more about? I would like if we can practice some NCLEX questions to prepare the exam.
- 3. Other Comments:

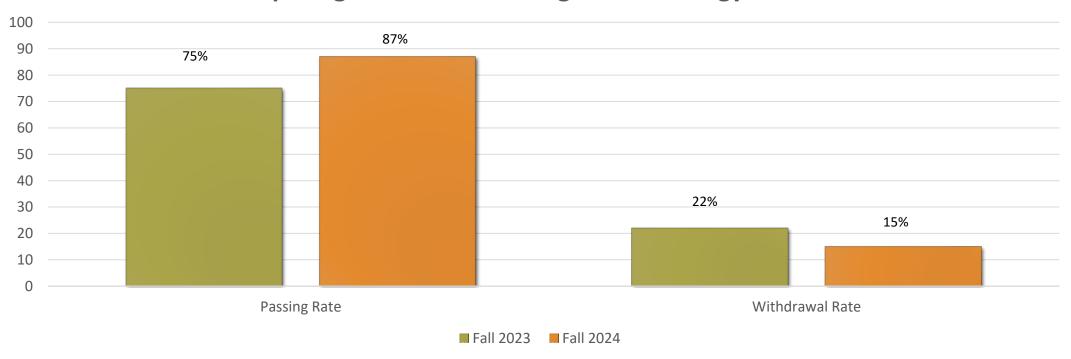
NIA

- 1. What did you find useful about today's session?
- 2. What would you still like to know more about?
- I would like to know more about OTC medicalising
- 3. Other Comments:



## **RESULTS**

## **Comparing the Results among Pharmacology Students**

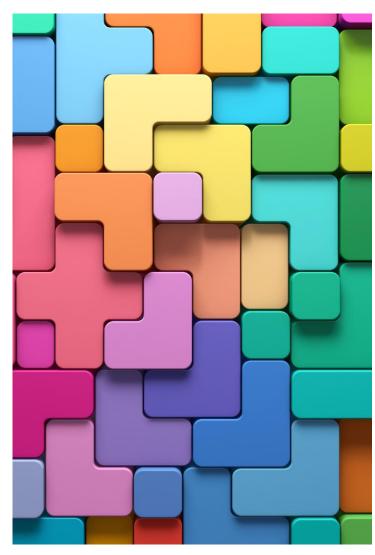


## Suggestions for Future

- For future study, I would like to use pre- and post-test for every session to compare the students' understanding and compare the results of using different techniques
- -I suggest to increase the class time to 3 hours to give more time for interactions
- -I will keep the same strategies

## My Thoughts on SET Experience

- I highly recommend this fellowship program to all faculty members.
- -This fellowship course inspired me to explore new books and rethink some aspects of my thought process.
- -It provided me with fresh perspectives and innovative strategies that I am excited to implement in my classroom.



#### **REFERENCES**

Barkley, E. F.: (2020). Student engagement techniques: A handbook for college faculty.

Bain, K. (2004). What the best college teachers do. Harvard University Press. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

McGuire, S. Y., & McGuire, S. (2023). Teach students how to learn: strategies you can incorporate into any course to improve student metacognition, study skills and motivation. Rutledge.