

# Implementation of a Perioperative Oncology Course in Undergraduate Nursing Curriculum

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## Background and Significance

- An aging workforce and the lack of perioperative clinical practice and theoretical content in nursing education programs are factors contributing to the current perioperative nursing shortage
- Over the last 20 years, perioperative nursing experiences have been excluded from most US BSN programs
- Introduction to Perioperative Nursing is an undergraduate course for nursing students and provides essential knowledge of pre-, intra-, and post-operative practices through the continuum of care for surgical patients.
- Evidence supports the success of elective perioperative courses on the recruitment of new graduates directly into the perioperative setting.

## Purpose

- The purpose of this project was to examine the evidence related to the effect of perioperative courses on undergraduate nursing students' interest in perioperative nursing, and how the implementation of specialized perioperative settings (oncology) effects their knowledge, skill, and safety of this speciality nursing practice.

## Methodology

“Will the implementation of a perioperative oncology course in the pre-licensure baccalaureate nursing curriculum, affect future nurses knowledge, skill, and safety, as measured by a pre and post course evaluation, within two years of graduation in the perioperative setting?”

- **Databases searched:** CINAHL, Google Scholar, PubMed, EBSCO
- **Keywords:** Perioperative Oncology, Perioperative Course, Undergraduate Nursing, Perioperative Oncology undergraduate course, surgical nursing
- **Limiters-**Language, scholarly publications, years of review, lack of study variety

## Conclusion

- Strategies for attracting new graduate nurses to the perioperative area are needed to address a growing nursing shortage in this specialty
- Study results from Sigsby (2004) found that a perioperative site is a favorable environment for nursing students' clinical rotation and knowledge base.
- Perioperative nursing courses provide students with a wide range of activities related to the competency of safety, knowledge, and skills for patient care.
- Perioperative nursing courses have shown to improve safety knowledge test scores for BSN students
- The undergraduate and new graduate nurses perceived that taking the perioperative course enhanced their knowledge, skills, and confidence.
- The use of a perioperative oncology nursing course, it decreases new nurse orientation by almost 6 weeks.



## Perioperative Oncology Framework

- Week 1- Introduction to Oncology Basics
  - Week 2-Introduction to Perioperative Oncology Nursing
  - Week 3-Breast Oncology Surgery
  - Week 4-Reconstructive Plastic Surgery
  - Week 5-Melanoma and other skin cancer Procedures
  - Week 6-Endocrine Based Cancer Surgery
  - Week 7- Robotics and Minimally Invasive Procedures
  - Week 8-MIDTERM
  - Week 9-Hepatopancreaticobiliary (HPB)
  - Week 10-Gynecological Oncology Surgery
  - Week 11-Genitourinary Oncology Surgery
  - Week 12-Thoracic Oncology Surgery
  - Week 13-Ear, Nose, and Throat Oncology (ENT)
  - Week 14-Orthopedic Oncology Surgery
  - Week 15-Neuro-Oncology Surgery
- \*This course will be completed in conjunction with AORN Periop 101 Student version

- References Available Upon Request
- Abstract Available upon request

Study Author/ Year	Sigsby 2004	Penprase 2016	Danko 2019	Schmidt 2019
<b>Type of Study</b>	Systemic Review, repeated experimental design	Single Qualitative study	Single descriptive study	Single Qualitative study
<b>Level of Evidence</b>	I	VI	VI	VI
<b>Setting</b>	The setting was a 367-bed community hospital where 1,945 surgical procedures took place during the three years of the study in the hours that BSN students were in the perioperative setting. 138 Junior BSN students participated in this study.	27 senior BSN students at the Oakland School of Nursing chosen to participate in the 14-week, 210 clinical hour perioperative didactic course. The clinical setting was conducted at a local hospital that was not named in the study.	Junior level BSN in a perioperative nursing course. 44 Students participated in the non-experimental study. The setting was a university that was not named in the study.	A non-experimental, ethnography study of 50 nurses who graduated from nursing programs in the midwestern United States. 23 students responded.
<b>Aims/Purposes</b>	To evaluate the effects of using a perioperative clinical learning setting for a medical surgical nursing course in a BSN program	To evaluate and prepare the student nurse to begin his or her role as a novice perioperative nurse with realistic expectations of what nursing practice entails	To determine the effect of a perioperative nursing course on junior BSN students' safety knowledge by testing students before and after they completed the course	To determine if an undergraduate perioperative nursing elective influenced career choices for nurses four to nine years after graduating from nursing school
<b>Intervention Method</b>	Students were placed in two groups with one faculty member in five- or eight-week clinical rotation in the perioperative setting.	Students were placed in a 14-week perioperative course using the AORN Periop 101 for students with 210 clinical hours in the perioperative setting.	44 students participated in a seven-week perioperative course that included a lecture one day a week for two hours, a skills laboratory session one day a week for two hours, and two eight-hour clinical days, for a total of 16 clinical hours per week.	Integration of a 64-hour perioperative clinical experience into senior level critical care course for seven Baccalaureate nursing students who are interested in perioperative nursing
<b>Evaluation of Perioperative Courses</b>	A surgical patient care questionnaire created by the researchers and a statistical analysis system	Perioperative Preceptorship Questionnaire and Hands-on Simulation (40 minutes) evaluated by nursing faculty of effect of 14-week course content	Likert Scale, Kirkpatrick Evaluation Model, and Kaplan Safety Knowledge Test Instrument	Two-page written survey that could be completed in 10 minutes
<b>Supports Implementation of Perioperative Oncology Courses in Undergraduate Nursing Curriculum</b>	↑	↑	↑	↑

