



QSEN in DNP Education: Exemplars for Education and Practice

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PROBLEM:

The goal of QSEN is to prepare nurses with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes required to improve quality and safety in healthcare. The cumulative skills of leadership, evidence based practice, and systems thinking added to basic nursing education help to create the DNP individuals and teams uniquely qualified to positively impact today’s healthcare system. To date, very few examples of QSEN competency integration in DNP curricula have been published.

Background:

•QSEN competencies overlap with the AACN DNP Essentials and the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF) core competencies for NP practice and *are complementary rather than additive* to the DNP curriculum.

Future Recommendations:

•Development of consistent methods of evaluation of DNP QSEN competencies in graduate education.

•Research is needed in this area to demonstrate both achievement of the DNP QSEN competencies and the impact of DNP education on future patient care outcomes.



QSEN Graduate Competencies:	Teaching Strategies	Exemplars /Potential Assignments
Quality Improvement	Reflective practice	Embed an examination of quality improvement (QI) methods & themes in an assigned case study
Teamwork and Collaboration	Blended clinical and simulation experiences to simulate today’s health care environments	Debrief includes a discussion of behaviors that demonstrate application of QSEN competencies in a practice environment
Evidence Based Practice	Root cause analysis (RCA)	Reflection on a clinical practice problem, identifying factors that may have contributed to a given event.
Informatics	Assigned case studies for evaluation	Discuss the lessons learned from a leadership perspective, when QSEN competencies are integrated into a clinical environment
Safety	Systems thinking exercises	Verbal or written group project that focuses on safe patient care delivery, practice excellence, and stakeholder perspectives within a microsystem
Patient-centered Care	Reflective practice	Utilize clinic and population based analyses to focus on health disparities in medical and behavioral health, and application of methods to improve clinical services.