CCNW CONNECTICUT CENTER FOR NURSING WORKFORCE

ANNUAL STATEWIDE NURSING SUMMIT

The AI-Driven Nursing Workforce: Nurse-Led AI in Education, Practice, and Policy

CCNW CONNECTICUT CENTER FOR NURSING WORKFORCE

Who We Are

- Master's program with five tracks
  - Adult Geriatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
  - Adult Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
  - **Family Nurse Practitioner**
  - **Nurse Educator**
  - Nursing Administration and Leadership
- Fully online, primarily asynchronous

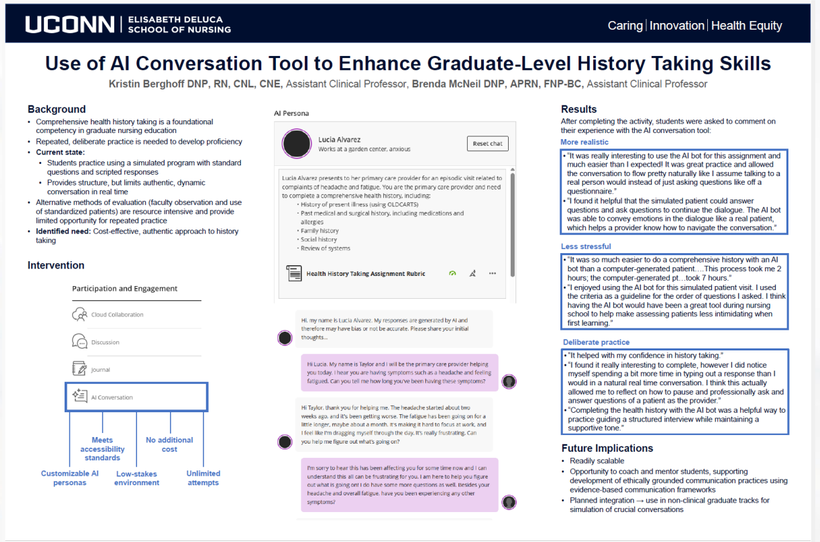
UCONN | ELISABETH DELUCA SCHOOL OF NURSING

ANNUAL STATEWIDE NURSING SUMMIT

CCNW CONNECTICUT CENTER FOR NURSING WORKFORCE

What We've Done and What We're Doing

- Current state
  - Faculty
  - Governance
  - AI-use
- AI conversation tool for advanced history taking
  - Filled a gap
  - Future application



UCONN | ELISABETH DELUCA SCHOOL OF NURSING — Caring | Innovation | Health Equity

Use of AI Conversation Tool to Enhance Graduate-Level History Taking Skills

Kristin Berghoff DNP, RN, CNL, CNE, Assistant Clinical Professor, Brenda McNeil DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, Assistant Clinical Professor

Background

- Comprehensive health history taking is a foundational competency in graduate nursing education
- Repeated, deliberate practice is needed to develop proficiency
- **Current state:**
  - Students practice using a simulated program with standard questions and scripted responses
  - Provides structure, but limits authentic, dynamic conversation in real time
- Alternative methods of evaluation (faculty observation and use of standardized patients) are resource intensive and provide limited opportunity for repeated practice
- **Identified need:** Cost-effective, authentic approach to history taking

Intervention

Participation and Engagement

Cloud Collaboration

Discussion

Journal

AI Conversation

Meets accessibility standards — Customizable AI personas

No additional cost — Low-stakes environment

Unlimited attempts

AI Persona

Lucia Alvarez
Works at a garden center, anxious

Reset chat

Lucia Alvarez presents to her primary care provider for an episodic visit related to complaints of headache and fatigue. You are the primary care provider and need to complete a comprehensive health history, including:

- History of present illness (using OLDCARTS)
- Past medical and surgical history, including medications and allergies
- Family history
- Social history
- Review of systems

Health History Taking Assignment Rubric

Hi, my name is Lucia Alvarez. My responses are generated by AI and therefore may have bias or not be accurate. Please share your initial thoughts...

Hi Lucia. My name is Taylor and I will be the primary care provider helping you today. I hear you are having symptoms such as a headache and feeling fatigued. Can you tell me how long you've been having these symptoms?

Hi Taylor, thank you for helping me. The headache started about two weeks ago, and it's been getting worse. The fatigue has been going on for a little longer, maybe about a month. It's making it hard to focus at work, and I feel like I'm dragging myself through the day. It's really frustrating. Can you help me figure out what's going on?

I'm sorry to hear this has been affecting you for some time now and I can understand this all can be frustrating for you. I am here to help you figure out what is going on! I do have some more questions as well. Besides your headache and overall fatigue, have you been experiencing any other symptoms?

Results

After completing the activity, students were asked to comment on their experience with the AI conversation tool:

More realistic

- "It was really interesting to use the AI bot for this assignment and much easier than I expected! It was great practice and allowed the conversation to flow pretty naturally like I assume talking to a real person would instead of just asking questions like off a questionnaire."
- "I found it helpful that the simulated patient could answer questions and ask questions to continue the dialogue. The AI bot was able to convey emotions in the dialogue like a real patient, which helps a provider know how to navigate the conversation."

Less stressful

- "It was so much easier to do a comprehensive history with an AI bot than a computer-generated patient.... This process took me 2 hours; the computer-generated pt... took 7 hours."
- "I enjoyed using the AI bot for this simulated patient visit. I used the criteria as a guideline for the order of questions I asked. I think having the AI bot would have been a great tool during nursing school to help make assessing patients less intimidating when first learning."

Deliberate practice

- "It helped with my confidence in history taking."
- "I found it really interesting to complete, however I did notice myself spending a bit more time in typing out a response than I would in a natural real time conversation. I think this actually allowed me to reflect on how to pause and professionally ask and answer questions of a patient as the provider."
- "Completing the health history with the AI bot was a helpful way to practice guiding a structured interview while maintaining a supportive tone."

Future Implications

- Readily scalable
- Opportunity to coach and mentor students, supporting development of ethically grounded communication practices using evidence-based communication frameworks
- Planned integration → use in non-clinical graduate tracks for simulation of crucial conversations

Please visit us at our poster to learn more!

ANNUAL STATEWIDE NURSING SUMMIT

CCNW CONNECTICUT CENTER FOR NURSING WORKFORCE

Where We're Going

- Integrated curriculum strategy
  - Sharing of best practices
  - Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning
  - University guidance
- New building
  - Significantly enhanced simulation center
  - Virtual reality

CCNW CONNECTICUT CENTER FOR NURSING WORKFORCE

EXECUTIVE SPONSORS

ANNUAL STATEWIDE NURSING SUMMIT