3-6-2015

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Nursing and Pharmacy Students
Create Mock Codes Together

CEDARVILLE, OHIO – Cedarville University senior nursing students and third-year professional pharmacy students will participate in a multidisciplinary mock code on March 10 and 11.

A mock code is a simulation in which students practice what to do when a patient isn’t breathing and doesn’t have a heartbeat. The nursing and pharmacy students will use an advanced cardiac life support (ACLS) experience to learn how to bring a patient back to a stable status.

Mock codes are practiced during the spring semester for nursing students. Amy Voris, D.N.P., assistant professor of nursing and assistant dean and director of undergraduate programs, and Zach Jenkins, Pharm.D., assistant professor of pharmacy practice, collaborated together to plan this event for nearly 100 students.

“We believe in teaching our students how to respond to code situations,” said Voris. “One of the most stressful things that can happen to a nurse is to walk into a room and see a patient not breathing without a heartbeat.”

Prior to the mock code simulations, students will go through four hours of lecture on guidelines for ACLS. Then, students will be placed in groups of five or six and become familiar with the equipment used during a code situation. After each simulation, students will debrief and talk about the process.

“We will run the codes for 10 minutes at a time and send the students through the mock code multiple times,” Voris said. “Repetition helps what they learn stick.”
By working with the pharmacy students, nursing students will see how other health professions can best assist the patient while working together.

“There are so many people involved in codes,” Jenkins said. “It is important that we know the value that other professions have in that emergency situation and how we can use each other as a resource for providing the best care to the patient.”

Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University is an accredited, Christ-centered, Baptist institution with an enrollment of 3,620 undergraduate, graduate and online students in more than 100 areas of study. Founded in 1887, Cedarville is recognized nationally for its authentic Christian community, rigorous academic programs, strong graduation and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings and leading student satisfaction ratings.