Assessment Report - Nursing Program
Calendar Year January 2005 – December 2005

Nursing Program
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This report is based on data from the Home Campus Nursing Program only. The Lake Ozark
Campus Nursing Program will graduate its first class in July 2006. The December 2004 graduates
are included because they begin taking the NLCEX licensure exam in January 2005.

Assessment Instruments:
NCLEX RN
This is the national licensure exam taken after program completion/graduation.
Results reported reflect first time test takers only.
Results are sent from the Missouri State Board of Nursing.

Number of Students Assessed:
Twenty-six students graduated in December 2004
Twenty-three students graduated in May 2005

Outcomes/Results of Assessment - NCLEX Results
Twenty-six December 2004 graduates took the NCLEX licensure exam
Results:  21/26 passed  80.7% pass rate

Twenty-two May 2005 graduates took the NCLEX licensure exam
Results:  19/22 passed  86.3% pass rate

Faculty Analysis of NCLEX Results:  
December 2004 Class
The December 2004 graduates were the first graduates from our new program that admitted generic
track students as well as bridge (LPN’s) track students. The faculty was disappointed in the pass
rate. Four of the five students who did not pass the exam on the first try were generic track
students; only one was an LPN. Three of the four generic track students who did not pass the
NCLEX did fine in the program. One had severe test anxiety; the other two may not have prepared
adequately (studied) for the exam. One of the generic track students struggled academically in
almost all of the nursing courses, receiving a low C in four of the six nursing courses. It was not a
complete surprise that this student did not pass the NLCEX on the first try. The LPN who did not
pass also struggled it the program. She seemed capable, but had difficulty with consistent
motivation. Faculty felt it was likely this graduate may not have prepared adequately for the exam.

Faculty Analysis of NCLEX Results:
May 2005 Class
Overall this class did better on the NCLEX licensure exam than the previous class. The three
students who did not pass the NCLEX exam were generic track students. One of the generic track
students struggled academically in almost all of the nursing courses, receiving a low C in four of the


six nursing courses. It was not a complete surprise that this student did not pass the NLCEX on the first try. The other two graduates who did not pass were unexpected. Then only conclusion we came to was test anxiety. We do not know about the level of preparation/study time for these two graduates.

**Recommendations for Improvement:**
The primary measure we have used to assess program integrity has been graduate’s performance on the NCLEX licensure exam. There are several additional sources of data that we can and should use to assess program integrity and to make decisions about curricula, policies, etc. These sources include:

- Pre-NCLEX Standardized assessment test is given two weeks before graduation.
- Graduate/Alumni Surveys that are sent out six months after graduation.
- Employee Surveys that are sent out six months after graduation.

We have not been consistent in collecting the data from the above three sources. Our return rates for the surveys have been poor. We need to revise the Graduate/Alumni Surveys and the Employee Surveys.

Although our overall pass rate is respectable, it is not as high as we want it to be. The faculty always strives for a 100% pass rate. We have looked at the curriculum to see if there are any areas of content/skills that need to be revised and/or enhanced. We have also reviewed the results of the Pre-RN Assessment test to look for trends – areas where students consistently scored poorly. We have also reviewed the print outs from all failures on the NCLEX to look for trends – areas where students consistently scored poorly. Based on the data from these two measures no consistent patterns were identified. Based on suggestions from a faculty retreat, we have implemented a more formal Skills Checklist that begins in the first clinical nursing course and is continued in all clinical courses throughout the curriculum. We will continue to encourage students to utilize the computerized NCLEX review program the school has available on the NEC computers and all of the Stafford Library computers. Students are also encouraged to utilize review books and to enroll in review courses that are offered by various companies.

We need to improve Program Assessment in the following areas:

- Revise the Graduate/Alumni Survey instrument.
- Revise the Employee Survey instrument.
- Consistently send out graduate and employee surveys for each class.
- Improve the return rate for graduate and employee surveys.
- Establish reporting mechanisms that will allow the data from each campus to be viewed separately and yet aggregated to analyze overall program trends.
- Develop and implement appropriate action plans based on assessment/evaluation data.