Development of patient safety in nursing education

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Background and aims
Knowledge of how patient safety (PS) is conducted is important for nursing students working with these issues in clinical practice. This project aimed to introduce the subject of “patient safety” in nursing education at Malmö University and demonstrate how it is has been integrated into the nursing curriculum through the following three phases.
1. Completion of a survey to establish what the existing Nursing program contains regarding the subject.
2. Designing a curriculum in partnership with key personnel from the National Board of Health and Welfare, Skåne University Hospital and City of Malmö.
3. Evaluating this curriculum from a student perspective.

Result
The results of students’ evaluations indicated that ‘patient safety’ education is largely positive. Many students expressed the wish for continuous educational opportunities in patient safety and that this topic should commence during the first year of training. As a result of co-operation with the health care providers, training sessions were arranged for teachers and health care personnel. Further, a collaborative project with the theme of patient safety was launched between Malmö University and Lund University, where nurse students, doctors, paramedics and social workers were invited to two days of training and development in specific relation to this topic.

Conclusion
Implemented patient safety programs are important for newly graduated nurses to develop basic knowledge and understanding of patient safety in health care.
In the work to design the Nursing program it is important to have contact with relevant key personnel outside the university.