



TAKE 5 – Student Safety

This initiative is to support students that are on placement with in the SCHHS who need to stop, step away and take time to reflect on some of the following to ensure safe practice, patient safety and their own wellbeing.

1. Patient safety¹

Patient safety is the prevention of harm to patients through care delivery that

- Prevents errors
- Learns from the errors that do occur
- Culture of safety that involves patients, health care professionals, students and the organisation

2. Scope of Practice

At all times, student nurses should demonstrate that they have the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to perform a specific task/nursing intervention.

Student nurses must also adhere to their education providers scope of practice, and should there be discrepancy, the lesser scope should be followed. It is the student nurse's responsibility to be accountable for their actions and ensure they are working within the appropriate scope of practice.

3. Seek Clarification

In communication, clarification involves offering back to the buddy/preceptor the essential meaning, as understood by the student, of what they have just said.

Thereby checking that the students understanding is correct and resolving any areas of confusion or misunderstanding leading to unsafe practice.

4. Wellbeing

Is the state of being comfortable, healthy and happy. We want to focus on the four dimensions of wellbeing to support students whilst on placement– mental, social, financial and physical for students.

5. Communication

The importance of communication in providing safe and quality healthcare is evident from research and clinical practice. This is a key element that students should feel empowered to deliver in a safe manner that is supported by their buddy/preceptor.

References

1. Patient Safety and Quality: An Evidence – Based Handbook for Nurses (2016). *Defining patient safety and Quality Care*, Chapter 1, NCBI