



COMMONWEALTH NURSES FEDERATION

4 Safety

A safe patient; A safe workplace; A safe profession; A safe nurse

CNF Workshop Trinidad and Tobago 4-5 November 2008

CNF WORKSHOP REPORT

Thirty six participants attended a two day workshop presented by the Commonwealth Nurses Federation in collaboration with the Trinidad and Tobago Registered Nurses Association (TTRNA) at the Hotel Normandie Conference Centre Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago 4-5 November 2008. The Commonwealth Foundation, the Commonwealth Nurses Federation and the Trinidad and Tobago Nurses Association all contributed funding to ensure the success of the workshops.

The Trinidad and Tobago Minister for Health, Senator the Honourable Jerry Narace, opened the workshop and reminded participants that *patient safety is not negotiable and is the number one priority*. The workshop attracted wide spread media interest including television coverage.

The workshop was divided into four segments: a safe patient; a safe workplace; a safe profession; and a safe nurse. The principle underlying the workshop was that patient safety is the number one priority for nurses however to achieve patient safety it is necessary to have a safe workplace, a safe profession and be a safe nurse. The sessions consisted of formal presentations, group activities and individual activities. The workshop was facilitated by Jill Iliffe, Executive Secretary of the Commonwealth Nurses Federation, supported by Marion Howard, CNF Board member for the Atlantic Region and Valerie Alleyne-Rawlins, President Trinidad and Tobago Registered Nurses Association.

The workshop was evaluated. Thirty four evaluation forms were returned (response rate 94%). Participants were asked to rate how useful the sessions were to them and their level of enjoyment of the sessions with 1 being the least useful or enjoyable and 6 being the most useful and enjoyable. In all sessions, 100% of respondents found the sessions useful and enjoyable.

Table 1: Participant evaluation of workshop in number and percent

		1	2	3	4	5	6
Session 1	Useful	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (3%)	7 (20.5%)	26 (76.5%)
	Enjoyable	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (3%)	11 (32.3%)	22 (64.7%)
Session 2	Useful	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (3%)	8 (23.5%)	25 (73.5%)
	Enjoyable	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (3%)	9 (26.4%)	24 (70.6%)
Session 3	Useful	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	5 (14.7%)	29 (85.3%)
	Enjoyable	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (3%)	6 (17.6%)	27 (79.4%)
Session 4	Useful	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4 (11.8%)	30 (88.2%)
	Enjoyable	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	5 (14.7%)	29 (85.3%)

Presenters



Ingrid Allan
Health Care Protocol Officer
Ministry of Health



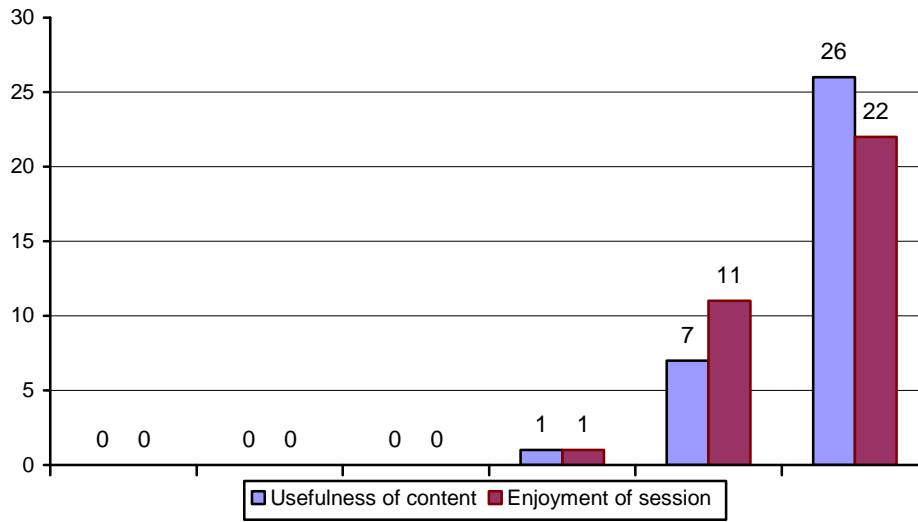
Marion Howard
CNF Board Member
CNF Atlantic Region



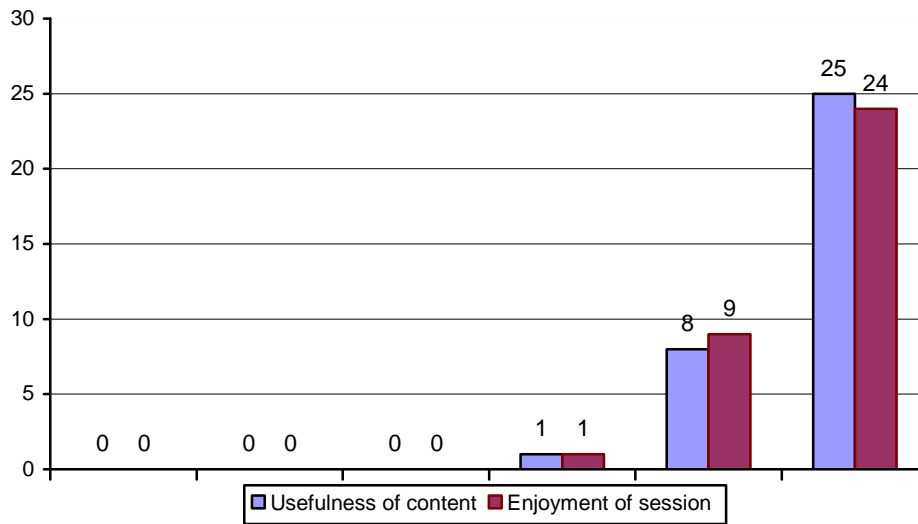
Valerie Alleyne-Rawlins
President
Trinidad and Tobago Registered Nurses Association



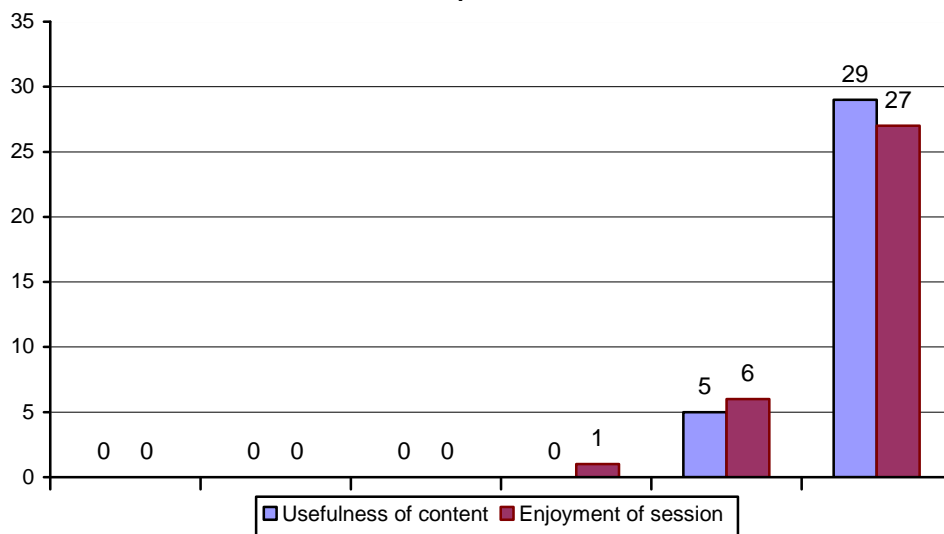
A safe patient

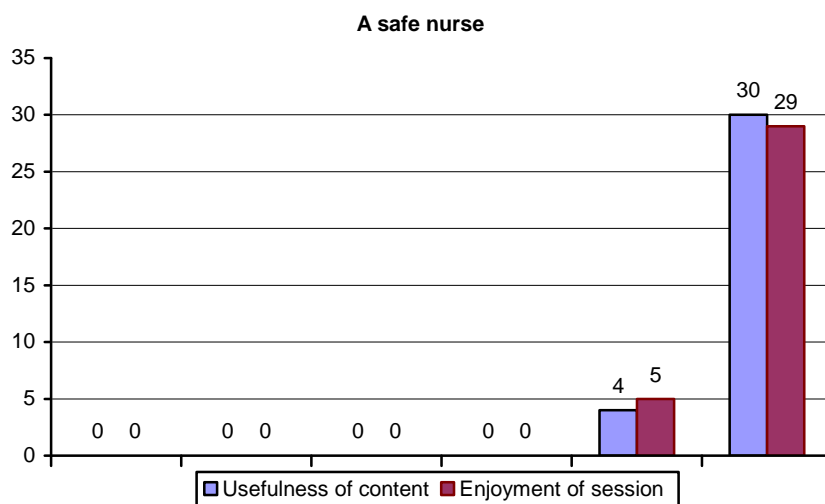


A safe workplace



A safe profession





PARTICIPANT COMMENTS - Positive

- ▶ Information and materials were relevant and current. I definitely will be using this information to train staff and be a catalyst for change.
- ▶ An excellent program. More people should be exposed to it.
- ▶ Very timely. I enjoyed the interaction and participation of the groups.
- ▶ I have learned that there is a lot to be done for me to provide safe care and safe practice.
- ▶ This workshop was excellent. It opened my eyes to a number of issues that perhaps I was not thinking about. The group work and individual reflection was awesome.
- ▶ A very, very informative and useful workshop. More senior nurses should have been at this workshop.
- ▶ This workshop was very informative. I am going back to my hospital to share the information with other nurses.
- ▶ Being a young nurse, this workshop has broadened my horizon of the nursing profession.
- ▶ The information was extremely well presented and will be used to promote and maintain safe practice for nurses.
- ▶ A very worthwhile and timely workshop. With the continuing nursing shortages and the global migration and mobility of nurses, safety is most important for the development of the profession and the care of patients.
- ▶ This workshop has been an eye opener for me; very informative.
- ▶ I enjoyed all the sessions particularly the group sessions. Thanks so much to the presenters and especially to my professional association for facilitating the program.
- ▶ It was a fulfilling experience and the issues were important ones; the two days were stimulating and engaging.
- ▶ Very interesting workshop. Good content for thought. Well organised presentations.
- ▶ The workshop was very informative and enlightening. I am thankful I was involved.
- ▶ The workshop has raised awareness that there are changes to be made for us to practice safely.
- ▶ The self assessments were enjoyable and relaxing. I appreciated that group work was used to address the various topics prior to presenting the information.
- ▶ All sessions were enjoyable. Very motivational. Food for reflection. Useful information that will trigger change.
- ▶ Very educational and interesting workshop. The approach used facilitated good interaction among participants.
- ▶ This workshop should be offered to the leaders of the organisations so they can assist to move the process forward.
- ▶ Quite a lot of information given during the workshop. Thank you for the substantial amount of handouts; they will assist in passing the information gained to my colleagues so we can continue to create a safety culture.
- ▶ A very much needed workshop. Congratulations to the presenters for a job well done. Thank you.
- ▶ This workshop was timely and enlightening. The facilitators were focussed and did an excellent job. Thank you to my professional association for planning a workshop of this nature.

PARTICIPANT COMMENTS - Negative

- ▶ There were no negative comments.



CARIBBEAN CNF WORKSHOPS 2008

Commonwealth Nurses Federation

4 SAFETY

Safe Care and Safe Practice for Nurses in the Caribbean

RECOMMENDATIONS TO ACHIEVE PATIENT SAFETY

Promote and maintaining a safety culture

- leadership
- input and responsibility of patient
- input and responsibility of worker
- input and responsibility of management
- focus on quality improvement process (accreditation, monitoring, compliance)

Manage the environment of care

- safe physical infrastructure
- equipment, materials and resources (working, maintained, proper care and use)
- proper management systems
- adequate staff (number, skill mix, competencies, education, supervision)
- deployment of staff according to workload and patient classification
- safety equipment (eg PPE, sharps disposal, bed rails, security)

Embrace policies and protocols

- written, known, available, adhered to
- patient's bill of rights
- medical administration
- disposal of biomedical waste
- risk identification and management
- storage of narcotics
- needle stick injuries
- universal precautions
- OHS and job hazard analysis

Provide education and training

- initial and ongoing
- best contemporary (current) practice
- safe work practices (hygiene, clothing, hair, cap)

RECOMMENDATIONS TO ACHIEVE A SAFE NURSING PROFESSION

1. Become a catalyst for change: share knowledge gained with others in the workplace.
2. Engage management in the process of change and provide leadership training so managers can lead the change process.
3. Establish a process to be able to share information, knowledge, resources and progress between regions.
4. Establish a process for updating and reviewing standards, policies and protocols and developing new ones where they are needed.
5. Establish a committee to take the process of change forward.
6. Encourage and support the Trinidad and Tobago Registered Nurses Association to continue providing education and training.
7. Commit to promoting membership of the Trinidad and Tobago Registered Nurses Association so that the Association can be strong and represent nurses in lobbying for a safe nurse, a safe profession, a safe workplace and a safe patient.



