

# Designing Interprofessional Collaboration

## How Escape Room Features Shape Interprofessional Collaboration Competencies in Mixed BScN-PN-Paramedic-PSW Student Teams Compared to Traditional Instruction

### Introduction

- Pilot study focuses on feasibility rather than statistical significance.
- Evaluate escape room design elements of puzzle complexity, role-based components, time constraints, team composition, and discipline variation.
- Different forms of education modalities to teach Interprofessional Competencies (IPC) can be used to emphasize and support different skills.

### Methods

- Convenience sample of n=25 students (BScN=6, PN=7, PSW=7, Paramedic=5); 8 interprofessional teams.
- Randomized into two groups/conditions: Experimental (Escape Room) or Traditional (classroom setting).
- IPC competency (dependent variable) measured using the modified. Interprofessional Collaborator Assessment Rubric and individual domains from the Breakout/Escape Room rubric (Applebee, 2018).

### ICR Results

- No significant difference between ER (Escape Room) and T (Traditional) groups.
- Both modalities showed comparable competency levels across all ICAR domains.
- Neither modality outperformed the other in communication outcomes.

#### Interpretation:

- Core interprofessional skills were effectively supported in both learning environments.
- Results suggest modality does not determine competency development.

### Results

- Quasi-experimental, post-test-only, multi-group design.
- Participants in the Traditional Modality generally achieved higher Problem-Solving scores than those in the Escape Room Modality.
- Overall performance did not differ significantly between Escape Room and Traditional modalities.

### Discussion

- Challenges the assumption that: One teaching method is inherently superior.
- Key Takeaway: Innovative approaches (e.g., escape rooms) are just as effective as traditional methods in supporting communication and teamwork skills.
- Educational Impact: Educators should feel encouraged—not hesitant—to adopt creative, active learning strategies.



Critical thinking is the key  
Collaboration is the way  
Learning is the escape

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