The **What** and **Why** of Technology Use by Today's Nursing Students

A highly educated nursing workforce is critical to meeting the nation’s healthcare needs and delivering safe patient care. Faculty and students are increasingly turning to technology to provide solutions to the reduction in available clinical sites, to help increase NCLEX-PN pass rates, to provide tools for struggling students, to gain exposure to tools used in practice (EHRs), and to increase the use of course content that enhances clinical reasoning and success.

What students had to say about their technology use:

- **88.6%** are comfortable using technology in their nursing programs.
- **82.9%** say that technology use enhances their learning.
- **79.6%** say that technology helps them better prepare for future careers.

When faculty were asked to indicate top reasons for adopting technology, these were the top student-focused reasons:*

1. **01** To help students succeed on the NCLEX and increase pass rates.
2. **02** To help struggling students succeed.
3. **03** To identify high-risk students early.

Over the next 5 years, virtual reality is the new technology that should have the greatest increase in adoption.

What nurses in practice and nurses in educational settings said about the level of preparedness and knowledge aptitude of nurse graduates entering practice:

- **96%** of nurses in educational settings and **94%** of nurses in practice settings say technology use is an attribute where nurse graduates are strengthened.
- **80%** of nurses in educational settings and **69%** of nurses in practice settings say that students are more prepared to use technology than nurse grad 5-10 years ago.

*2016 National Student Survey
**2016 Future of Technology in Nursing Survey published together with the National League for Nursing
***2016 Nurse Graduate Knowledge Gap Survey