



Evidence-based Public Health Practice through Undergraduate Students, Regional Offices, and Local Health Agencies

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Description

Goal: Describe a university-practice collaboration for evidence-based practice (EBP) in a public health setting to identify effective means for disseminating best practice and foster student interest in public health

An evidence-based process was utilized for current and emerging public health issues by teaching EBP processes to public health nurses and having students provide literature summaries of evidence-based findings to public health nurses (PHNs)

Background

- Previous university-public health practice collaboration success through grant funded project which included a liaison staff member, provided the framework for this project
- Knowledge from previous university-practice collaboration experiences with agencies and undergraduate students was utilized
- Literature reviews established the need for Evidence-based practice (EBP) for Public Health Nurses (PHNs)

Steps of the Collaboration Process

- Completed a PHN Supervisor Needs Assessment and identified a need for access to EBP sources
- Developed adjunct positions for public health nurses to obtain library access
- Provided classes in EBP processes through the university
- Developed a process for PHNs to get information through students with input from public health administrators and PHN consultants
- Obtained literature review requests from public health staff
- Hired students for project involvement
- Conducted literature reviews



Literature Reviews

- ❖ Informatics in public health
- ❖ Pharmaceutical waste
- ❖ Lymphedema management
- ❖ Text messaging and protected health information
- ❖ Shared public health services
- ❖ Prenatal care coordination
- ❖ Effects of marijuana use during pregnancy
- ❖ Community-based interventions for chlamydia

Outcomes

- ❖ Student knowledge about PHN practice
- ❖ Appreciation of student role and resources
- ❖ Evidence-based practice summaries
- ❖ Grant funding obtained
- ❖ Prenatal care coordination: Marijuana effects educational tool

Future Evaluation Plan

- ❖ Research students are completing a knowledge/attitude survey on evidence-based practice
- ❖ Research assistants participation in focus groups related to EBP learning and quality of experiences
- ❖ Agency staff will participate in focus groups to evaluate the process

Support for this project/poster was provided by the Blugold Commitment differential tuition funds through the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Faculty/Student Research Collaboration Program, the Department of Health Services-Division of Public Health-Western Region, and The Project is supported by funds from the Division of Nursing (DN), Bureau of Health Professions (BHP), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) under DHHS/HRSA D11HP07731, Linking Education and Practice Excellence in Public Health Nursing