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Incorporating Principles of Health Literacy Among Spanish-Speaking Communities

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Incorporating Principles of Health Literacy Among Spanish-Speaking Communities

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In partnership with



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Background

Systemic disadvantages within the Latino community:

- Limited access to quality education
- Healthcare disparities
- Language barriers
- Discrimination

Therefore:

- Income inequality
- Higher poverty rates
- Limited job prospects
- Reduced access to social services (Velasco-Mondragon et al., 2016).



Disparities in health literacy affect Latinos' understanding of healthcare information, access to quality healthcare services, and health outcomes.

(NIHCM, 2020)



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Literature Review

Create media with appropriate health literacy

Providing family and caregiver training/education through the use of appropriately developed handouts and training programs tuned to the health literacy level of the client can decrease the possibility of developing or exposing themselves to certain conditions (Hahn & Truman, 2015).

Conditions that affect the community

A variety of conditions and diagnoses that particularly affect the Latin/Hispanic and Spanish-speaking populations include diabetes, depression, stress, spina bifida, cancer, Covid-19, and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Stress in the family, within relationships, and in activities of daily living has been linked to depressive symptoms and disorders. (Benbow et al., 2020; Pilipenko & Vivar-Ramon, 2021; Pinheiro et al., 2017, Ricardo et al., 2022; Castillo et al., 2019; Morales et al., 2020).

Early Intervention Services

Also, parents from Latino backgrounds are less likely than parents from other racial and ethnic groups to use early childhood and early intervention services. As Mandell & Novak (2005) have mentioned in their article, Latinos are being diagnosed much later in life with conditions, such as autism (ASD), and would benefit from early intervention and identification.



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Program Purpose

1. Implementing health literacy principles for Spanish-speaking populations aims to ensure equitable healthcare access by addressing language barriers and providing culturally sensitive information and resources.
2. Next, it empowers individuals to make informed decisions about their health, leading to better self-management and improved health outcomes.
3. Lastly, it helps bridge the gap between healthcare providers and Spanish-speaking populations, promotes effective communication, trust, and patient collaboration.

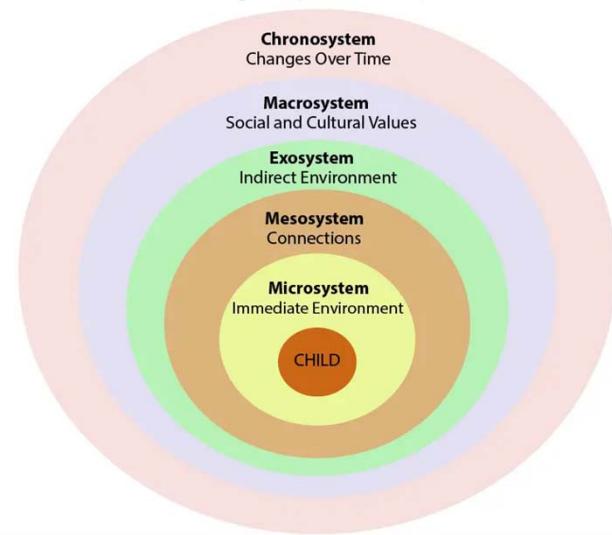
Ultimately, implementing health literacy principles can contribute to reducing health disparities and promoting the overall well-being of Spanish-speaking communities



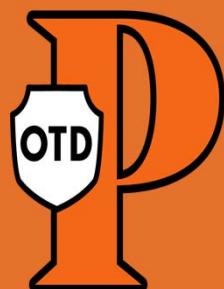
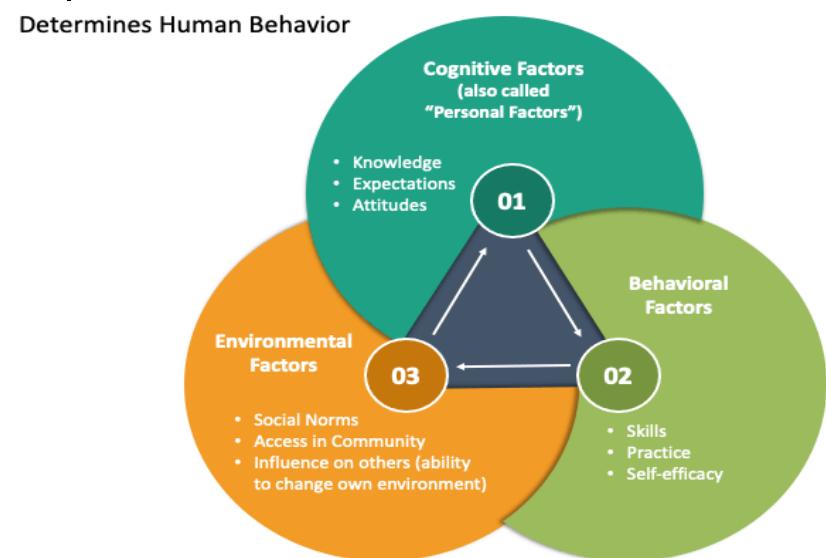
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Guiding Theories:

Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Systems Theory: explores how individuals' development is influenced by their interactions with different environmental systems, including family, school, community, and society (Bifulco et al., 2023).



Social Cognitive Theory: emphasizes the role of observational learning, self-efficacy, and personal experiences in shaping behavior and cognitive processes (Wood & Bandura, 1989).



Needs Assessment

Health Questionnaire

Health fair provided information

Expressed concerns with:

- Anxiety
- Sleep
- Weight changes

64% had a medical visit within the past year

65% were satisfied with their level of care

31% require and have access to interpreting services

COVID-19 Statistics:

- 85% vaccinated
- 26% are hesitant to vaccine
- 83% believe to have access to vaccines if needed

92% noted comfortability with health-related information

SAHL-S (18 ?'s)

- 57% of respondents had difficulty in comprehension
- Most missed words:
 - Siphilis
 - Indicated
 - Hormones
 - Abnormal
 - Diagnostic

Observations

Many had difficulty reading and comprehending

Almost all had access to a smart phone



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Outcomes: Health Literacy Packet

Worksheets

Hoja de trabajo #3: Cambios para discutir

Informe a su médico sobre cualquier cambio en su vida desde su última cita. La siguiente lista puede ayudarlo a pensar qué mencionar. (Por supuesto, todas las cosas en esta lista no se aplicarán en cada visita.) Arranca este formulario y haz una copia de la lista en blanco para que siempre tengas una copia limpia para usar. O puedes descargar copias adicionales del formulario en www.nia.nih.gov/health/twysd-worksheets. Luego, tómese un minuto para pensar en cada uno de estos posibles temas. Anota cuándo notaste por primera vez cada cambio. Use la última columna para anotar cualquier información adicional que pueda ser útil para que el médico sepa.

Su salud física		
Tema	Fecha	Notas
Hospitalizaciones o emergencias recientes		
Dolor o rigidez en los huesos/articulaciones		
Problemas intestinales/vesiculares		
Dolor torácico/dificultad para respirar		
Dolores de cabeza/sensación de mareo o aturdimiento		
Cambios en la visión/audición		
Cambios en la piel		

Hoja de trabajo #2: Preguntas para hacerle a su médico

¿Qué necesita saber sobre un médico?	
BÁSICO	
Pregunta	Respuesta
¿Será el idioma un obstáculo para la comunicación? Hay alguien en la oficina que hable mi idioma?	
¿Prefiero una práctica grupal o un médico individual?	
¿Importa en qué hospital el médico admite pacientes?	
¿Importa si el médico apoya la investigación clínica?	



Video Series

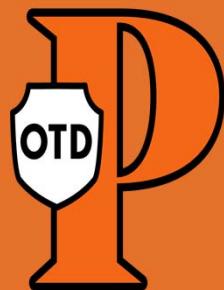
Decisiones Informadas

Facilitar la conversación

Pide un traductor/interprete
Es tu derecho tener a una persona que hable tu idioma presente

Entendimiento
Si se le hace difícil entender lo que te están diciendo, pide una clarificación o que lo expliquen de diferente forma

Cualquier duda....pregunta!!!



Outcomes: Disease Prevention Packet

Evitar hábitos poco saludables

Bebiendo alcohol



Fumar cigarrillos



Vida sedentaria



Mala alimentación

El consumo excesivo de alcohol puede contribuir a enfermedades del hígado, hipertensión y varios tipos de cáncer.

La falta de actividad física y consumir una dieta alta en grasas saturadas, azúcares y sodio puede llevar a enfermedades.

Enfermedad

Diabetes: La diabetes descontrolada puede causar pérdida de peso debido a la incapacidad del cuerpo para utilizar adecuadamente la glucosa como energía.

Depresión y ansiedad: A veces pueden afectar el apetito, lo que lleva a aumentar o perder peso.

Cáncer: Ciertos tipos de cáncer o tratamientos contra el cáncer pueden reducir el apetito o cambios en el metabolismo.

Enfermedades del corazón: La insuficiencia cardíaca grave u otras condiciones cardíacas pueden provocar retención de líquidos y aumento de peso debido a la función renal deteriorada.

Enfermedad renal: La enfermedad renal avanzada puede causar retención de líquidos y aumento de peso debido a la función renal deteriorada.

MANEJAR LA ANSIEDAD

La respiración

- Respira por tu estómago
- Sosténtalo por 5 segundos
- Espira despacio por 5 segundos

Toma agua o té



Pausa



Pide ayuda o habla con alguien

¿COMO ME AFECTA?

- Dormir mal puede aumentar el riesgo de la obesidad, enfermedad del corazón, alta presión, y el diabetes.
- Afecta habilidad de pensamiento, vigilancia, reacción, memoria, y aprendizaje
- Actividades cotidianas como el trabajo, manejar, o el mantenimiento de niños



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Outcomes: Early Intervention OT



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Impact

On the population:

- To provide essential health information in a clear, concise, and culturally sensitive manner, catering to the specific needs of Spanish speakers.
- To increase their knowledge of medical terminology and situations within seeking healthcare services
- Empowering the community to trust and seek community-based resources
- These packets contain information on healthy lifestyle choices, including diet and exercise recommendations, aimed at reducing the risk of diseases and increasing awareness of rehabilitation services.

To the organization:

- The presentation was well-received on implementing health literacy principles and worksheets
- Instagram reach has received over 250 views, Facebook 50 views, YouTube 10 views
- Increased traffic to Community Health and Wellness, Behavioral and Nutritional programs



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Discussion

- Opportunity to present project deliverables at the National Unidos US conference
- Interest in making phone apps more accessible
- Technology / social media is an emerging information hub
- Importance of the power of word of mouth
- Core Values of Occupational Therapy: Altruism

UNIDOS US



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Acknowledgements

Carmen Padilla - Chief of Staff

Dr. Ines Ruiz-Houston- Special Programs & Civic Engagement

Dr. Natalie Perkins PP-OTD, M.Ed., OTR/L, FIIE

Dr. Kathryn Wise, OTD, MHSc, OTR/L

The team at El Concilio



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Thank You!

Any questions?



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