



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