Our Global Partnership with the Dominican Republic: Improving the Health of Children

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Learning Objectives

1. The learner will be able to develop an awareness of global nursing needs by describing the health care needs of children in the Dominican Republic.

2. The learner will be able to describe and apply a minimum of three key points necessary to develop a global nursing partnership.
United States Agency for International Development

- Need for sustained improvement in the health of vulnerable populations around the world.

Dominican Republic

- Three major areas of health risks in the Dominican population
  1. HIV / AIDS prevention and care
  2. Child survival
  3. Reproductive health / family planning
Leading causes of death in newborns (1 to 30 days of life) in the Dominican population
- Neonatal sepsis
- Respiratory distress syndrome
- Prematurity

Main causes of post–neonatal death (30 days and older) in the Dominican population
- Septicemia
- Diarrhea
- Gastroenteritis
- Pneumonia
Our Program

- Partnership with the World Pediatric Program, Adelphi University School of Nursing and the Robert Reid Cabral Hospital in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.
Our Program

Goals

- Improve the knowledge and skill level of the nurses working at Robert Reid Cabral Hospital utilizing evidence based practice and standards of care.
- Improve health care outcomes of the patients at Robert Reid Cabral Hospital through sustainable nursing practice.
Our Program

Robert Reid Cabral Hospital

- 350 bed level 3 pediatric hospital
- Main pediatric referral hospital in the Dominican Republic
- Patient demographics
  - Newborn – 15 years of age
  - Highest mortality rate
  - Neonate
- Approximately 300 emergency room visits per day
- 2007 – Neonatal infection mortality rate = 24%
Our Program

Initial Needs Assessment, March 2009

Nancy Cole, MS, RN,
Patricia Facquet, Phd(c), RN
Mary Hickey, EdD, RN

- Assessed all nursing units
- Met with medical/nursing leadership and staff nurses
- Submitted initial report to medical/nursing leadership

Funding
- David Ortiz Foundation
Our Program

Second Needs Assessment, March 2011

- Built upon first needs assessment
- Identification of Nursing Staff
  - 194 Licensed Professional Nurses with four years of education plus 1 – 2 years advanced education in specialization
  - 256 Ancillary nurses with 1 year education
- Medical administration deems them all nurses equal in terms of roles
- Reviewed the curriculum developed after the first needs assessment with nursing leadership
Top diagnoses identified by hospital staff at 2nd needs assessment

- Asthma
- Accidents
- Bronchitis
- Poison
- Gastro – dehydration
- Dengue fever
- Viral infections – rotavirus
- Congenital cardiac anomalies
- Acquired Rheumatic Fever & Kawasaki’s Disease
- Pneumonia
Our Program Education Manual Chapters

1. Role of the Nurse
2. Infection Control
3. Patient Safety
4. Patient Assessment and Reassessment
5. Pharmacology
6. Nursing Interventions
7. Respiratory Topics
8. Cardiac Topics
9. Gastrointestinal Topics
10. Infectious Diseases
11. Renal Topics
12. Neonatology
13. Palliative Care
Our Program

Theoretical and clinical component

- “Train the Trainer”
- Faculty Recruitment
- Application Process
- Three days of didactic instruction
- Three days in clinical area
Thank You