Application of Evidence-Based Practices to Global Interprofessional Collaborations Aimed at Reducing Hearing-Related Health Disparities

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Objectives

Define health disparity.

Provide one example of evidence-based interventions aimed at reducing hearing-related health disparities.

List three characteristics of successful interprofessional collaboration in healthcare.

Summarize the importance of nursing action in global healthcare.
Health Disparities

Hearing Screen Failure

Jinotega, Nicaragua 18%

United States <4%

Attributed to

- ototoxic medications
- familial hearing loss
- lack of access to care
- economic disadvantage
- febrile illness
- maternal infections

(Saunders, Vaz, Greinwald, Lai, Morin, & Mojica, 2007)
Interprofessional Collaboration

Educators
Government Officials
Physician
Religious Leaders
Speech Language Pathologists
Registered Nurses
Hearing Instrument Specialists
Family Nurse Practitioners
Students
Philanthropists
Translators
## Social Determinants of Health

### Economic Stability
- second poorest country in Western Hemisphere
- dependent on foreign aid
- families work in coffee fields

### Education
- 70% attend primary education
- absenteeism attributed to financial hardship
- increasing literacy rates

### Social Context
- primarily Catholic and Protestant
- men are authority figures
- women raise family

### Built Environment
- geographically isolated by mountains
- small, primarily agricultural communities
- limited electricity, clean water, and housing

### Health Care
- national health plan
- widespread use of ototoxic medications
- high rates of familial hearing loss

(Saunders, et al., 2007; Every Culture, 2016)
Education

Nursing Students

Maternity House

Community Stakeholders
Who

• Prevalence and Etiology of Hearing Loss in Rural Nicaraguan Children
  • (Saunders, Vaz, Greinwald, Lai, Morin, & Mojica, 2007)
Kingdom Kids

- 340 children
- academics
- nutrition
- health
- religion

(Mision Para Cristo, 2017)
What

• An Evidence-Based Systematic Review on the Diagnostic Accuracy of Hearing Screening Instruments for Preschool and School-Age Children

  • (Prieve, Venediktov, & Franceschini, 2015)
How

• Diagnostic Pure-Tone Audiometry in Schools: Mobile Testing without a Sound-Treated Environment
  • (Swanepoel, Maclennan-Smith, & Hall, 2013)
Child Exams – Kingdom Kids

components

• physical exam
• hearing and vision screening
• speech-language consult
• interventions for acute illness
• ear lavage as needed

documentation

• reproducible
• modifiable
• efficient
• English and Spanish
Hearing Screening Results

- **Pass**
  - 102 (34%)

- **Fail**
  - 200 (66%)

Children
Evaluation

- Post-implementation briefing in Nicaragua
- Continued communication and support
- Functional hearing screening program that is sustainable and can be replicated
Future Considerations

Replication in Schools

Hearing Aid Outreach
Discussion
References


References


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