

Title:

Exploration of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning Adolescents Experiences in Healthcare: A Cultural Examination

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Session Title:

Research Poster Session 2

Slot (superslotted):

RSC PST 2: Saturday, 29 July 2017: 12:00 PM-1:30 PM

Slot (superslotted):

RSC PST 2: Saturday, 29 July 2017: 2:45 PM-3:30 PM

Keywords:

Healthcare Provider, LGBTQ Adolescent and LGBTQ Healthcare Culture

References:

Allen, L. B., Glick, A. D., Beach, R. K., & Maylor, K. E. (1998). Adolescent health care experience of gay, lesbian, and bisexual young adults. *Journal of Adolescent Health, 23*, 212-220.

Ginsburg, K. R., Winn, R. J., Rudy, B. J., Crawford, J., Zhao, H., & Schwarz, D. F. (2002). How to reach sexual minority youth in the health care setting: the teens offer guidance. *The Journal Of Adolescent Health: Official Publication Of The Society For Adolescent Medicine, 31*(5), 407-416.

East, J. A. & Rayess, F. E. (1998). Pediatricians' approach to the health care of lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth. *Journal of Adolescent Health, 23*, 191-193.

Kreiss, J. L., & Patterson, D. L. (1997). Psychosocial issues in primary care of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender youth. *Journal Of Pediatric Health Care: Official Publication Of National Association Of Pediatric Nurse Associates & Practitioners, 11*(6), 266-274.

The American Academy of Pediatrics. Office-based care for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth. (2013). *Pediatrics, 132*(1), 198-203.

Abstract Summary:

This research is a qualitative exploration of healthcare experiences of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) adolescents from a cultural perspective. Findings shared demonstrate how the participants feel healthcare focus is on the heteronormative individual. The goal is to increase awareness and improve healthcare for the LGBTQ adolescent.

Learning Activity:

LEARNING OBJECTIVES	EXPANDED CONTENT OUTLINE
The learner will be able to describe the experiences of LGBTQ adolescents in the healthcare setting.	Describe background and needs for study Discuss current state of healthcare related to culture of LGBTQ adolescent Provide overview of study design and methods used for data collection and analysis Discuss thematic findings of participants and provide examples from the data
The learner will be able to identify strategies to improve and provide culturally sensitive interactions with LGBTQ adolescents in the healthcare setting.	Describe strategies to incorporate findings into personal healthcare practice for individuals Discuss potential future steps in research related to needs of the LGBTQ adolescent culture to improve healthcare outcomes and decrease the health disparities of this population

Abstract Text:

Purpose:

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) youth are a new cultural group in healthcare settings that has unique physical, social, and psychological needs as compared to the typical adolescent or the LGBTQ adult population. A majority of the literature in medicine and nursing focuses on the LGBTQ adult, demonstrating a gap in literature on the needs and desires of the LGBTQ adolescent. In order to better understand the needs of LGBTQ adolescents in healthcare settings, descriptive studies are needed. The purpose of this study was to explore the healthcare experiences of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) adolescents, with a focus on their perceived cultural disparities in the healthcare setting.

Methods:

The study was approved by a university IRB board, and all participants signed consent and media release for audio recordings. This qualitative study was conducted using focus groups on a private university campus. Participants were recruited across campus with dissemination of flyers seeking voluntary participants. The principal investigator conducted focus groups of three to five participants. Each focus group met for one session lasting one to one and half hours. Each session was audio recorded and then transcribed with digital transcription software. The principle investigator completed a read back for accuracy of transcription. The principal investigator conducted the focus groups and conducted a short debrief session with participants after data collection was complete. Data analysis will be completed with NVivo software for themes identification.

Results:

This study is currently in the data analysis phase and is not complete. Preliminary data analysis has revealed themes of education for providers related to LGBTQ lifestyle, heteronormative environments in healthcare settings, assumption of lifestyle by healthcare providers, and lack of privacy and confidentiality provided. Results are to be explored further and in-depth analysis in the next month.

Conclusion:

Preliminary findings indicate that LGBTQ adolescents recognize their healthcare providers have inconsistent education about LGBTQ culture and how it impacts health. The participants verbalized a need for standardized preparation of healthcare providers to better equip them for personalized healthcare with LGBTQ adolescents. IN addition, the participants verbalized a concern for the assumption of heteronormative status. Assumption of heteronormativity decreased the participants desire to disclose and seek information from their providers. Further analysis will be completed.