An Aging Population: Who Will Care for the Elderly?

Susan Cairone MSN, RN-BC
Margie Hair PhD, RN, CNE
Learning Objectives

• Discuss current healthcare needs of geriatric population
• Describe need for increased geriatric content to prepare nurses for an aging population
• Compare current findings with baseline study (Rosenfeld et al. 1999)
Learning Objectives

• Identify three strategies to increase geriatric specific content in Baccalaureate nursing programs
• Compare studies regarding barriers that inhibit integrating geriatric content into BSN curricula
Each day until 2030 approximately 10,000 Americans will reach age 65 (Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2012)

Aging population will be met with multiple medical problems

Normal physical changes of aging

Increase in Alzheimer's and other age related dementias (Alz. Association, 2017)
• Reported lack of consistency regarding geriatric education (ANA, 2010)
• Uneven amount of content between nursing programs (IOM, 2011)
• Less than 1% of the 3.1 million nurses in the U.S. certified in geriatric/gerontological nursing (Lund, 2013)
What’s Needed?

• Need to understand various literacy and cognitive levels
• Understanding of cultural competence
• Need for knowledge, skills, and attitudes to manage complex issues
• A move away from acute care toward comfort care
Ray’s Theory of Bureaucratic Caring

• Spiritual/Ethical Concepts
• Technology, Economics, Legal, Political, Educational, Physiological, Social, Cultural Factors
• Interconnectedness of Nursing/Health Care/ Educational Institutions

(Marilyn Anne Ray, 2013)
Study Questions

• Baccalaureate Competences and Curricula Guidelines for the Nursing Care of Older Adults (AACN & HIGN, 2010)
• Stand/alone, Integrated Courses
• ANCC Gerontological Faculty
• Barriers inhibiting the development of geriatric/gerontological content
Study

- Quantitative
- Random sample 50% of Baccalaureate Nursing programs in the U.S.
- A self administered questionnaire to 364 schools
- 24.5% response rate
- Findings compared to the landmark study by Rosenfeld et al. in 1999
## Education of Geriatric/Gerontology Content

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Stand-Alone Course</th>
<th>Integration of Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015-Current study</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999-Rosenfeld et al.</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 2015-Current study
- 1999-Rosenfeld et al.
Clinical Component to Stand Alone Course

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinical Component</th>
<th>Didactic Only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015- Present Study</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999- Rosenfeld</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BSN Faculty Certification in Gerontology

At least one full time BSN faculty member certified in Gerontology by ANA or ANCC

2015-present 22% with 35% unknown
1999 (Rosenfeld study) 33%
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015 Trad.</th>
<th>2015 RN to BSN</th>
<th>1999 Rosenfeld</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Content Overload</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient Number of Qualified Full Time Faculty</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of Clearly Articulated Curricula</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of Role Models in Clinical Settings</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Inhibiting Factors Continued..

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015 Trad.</th>
<th>2015 RN to BSN</th>
<th>1999 Rosenfeld</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lack of Quality</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Sites</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of Content on</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensing Examination</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of Interest Among</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of Interest Among</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Recommendations

- Increase questions on licensing exam
- Increase faculty certification/recognition
- Address content overload
- Increase funding and incentives to promote faculty development and education
- Increase interest
References


- American Association of Colleges of Nursing and The John A. Hartford Foundation Institute for Geriatric Nursing. (2010). *Recommended Baccalaureate Competences and Curricular Guidelines for the Nursing Care of Older Adults*. Washington, DC; New York University, N.Y.


References


References


Goals!       Questions/Comments
