

Title:

SPECIAL SESSION: Maternal-Child Health Nurse Leadership Academy: Using Leadership Development to Improve Patient Outcomes

Presenter:

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Type:

Oral

Keywords:

Leadership, Maternal-Child Health and Mentorship

Summary:

Developing maternal-child health nurse leaders is critical for nursing. STTI & J&J Maternal-Child Health Nurse Leadership Academy (MCHNLA) has successfully implemented a mentored leadership experience. Learn how Academy participants implemented projects that successfully improved patient outcomes in varied health care settings for underserved women and children up to age 5.

Abstract Text:

Nurses at all levels of professional training have the potential to become leaders within their practice setting, whether clinical, academic, or research, and they can be formal or informal leadership roles. Nurses may be hesitant to take on leadership responsibilities due to a lack of formal training or experience. Unfortunately, a lot of the leadership training programs have been focused on promoting nurses who are taking on formal leadership roles within their organization. Less focus has been placed on ensuring all nurses have the skills and training to enable them to be leaders within their practice setting. However, the increasing complexity of responsibilities that nurses are being given in the current healthcare environment, requires that all nurses be able to demonstrate their ability to take the lead on a variety of healthcare initiatives. The purpose of this presentation is to describe the Maternal-Child Health Nurse Leadership Academy (MCHNLA), an innovative leadership development program for nurse leaders that has been created for developing leadership skills for MCH nurses in all phases and levels of their career. An aim of this session is to discuss the significant patient outcomes that occur due to the nurse fellow, mentors, and faculty participation in the MCHNLA program. A secondary aim is to highlight the accomplishments of fellows and mentors due to the leadership training received within the MCHNLA.

Few leadership development programs have been in existence for more than a decade. However, Sigma Theta Tau International, in partnership with Johnson & Johnson, has been successful in developing MCH nurse leaders for the past 12 years. One strategy for success has been the development of MCH nurse leaders through engagement in active leadership education and support to MCH nurses. The Maternal-Child Health

Nurses Leadership Academy (MCHNLA) was developed to include an innovative mentorship component that few leadership development programs provide. Over the 18 months of this MCHNLA program, the fellow in the academy has an established one-to-one intense working relationship with their mentor, as they collaborate together to establish the leadership skills of the fellow in the academy. Not only does the fellow have an experienced mentor to work with, but a faculty member with expertise in the area of both MCH and demonstrated leadership. Included in the working relationship of the triad of the fellow, mentor, and nurse faculty are participation in 2 workshops, 2 faculty member site visits. The MCHNLA culminates in the opportunity for the fellow to reflect on the outcomes of their experience through the dissemination of their leadership project and sharing their journey at the STTI Biennial Convention.

The leadership skills of maternal-child health nurses and midwives are developed and enhanced in the 18-month academy. Since its inception, more than 320 nurses and midwives from seven countries have taken part in the Maternal-Child Health Nurse Leadership Academy (MCHNLA). The MCHNLA has facilitated the development of outstanding projects that have improved the health of women, infants and young children, directly benefitting 5,024 healthcare providers, 39,033 patients and community members. In this presentation, the faculty will briefly discuss the academy model and how the theoretical underpinnings of the model are used to guide leadership development.

The impact of the MCHNLA program includes demonstrating a significant increase in the leadership skills of fellows throughout all the academies. Components of the MCHNLA, including the skills developed during the leadership journey, support the effectiveness of the MCHNLA. Participants can use information provided to design and implement leadership initiatives to meet the healthcare needs of patients within the healthcare system.

Final Number:

B 22

Slot:

B 22: Saturday, 28 October 2017: 3:15 PM-4:00 PM

References:

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Learning Activity:

LEARNING OBJECTIVES	EXPANDED CONTENT OUTLINE
At the end of the activity the learner will be able to discuss the dual goals of MCHNLA	1. MCHNLA Objectives 2. MCHNLA participant/aggregate numbers 3. Academy impact
At the end of the activity the learner will be able to discuss the outcomes of various projects implemented by MCHNLA dyads	1. Describe the projects 2. Describe the project outcomes 3. Describe the leadership development while using exemplars
Open for questions	Wrap up and questions.