

Medical-Surgical Patients with a Secondary Diagnosis of Mental Illness:

How Are Nurses Prepared?

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Jeanette Avery, PhD, MSN, CNE & Ann Schreier, PhD, RN

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Learner Objectives:

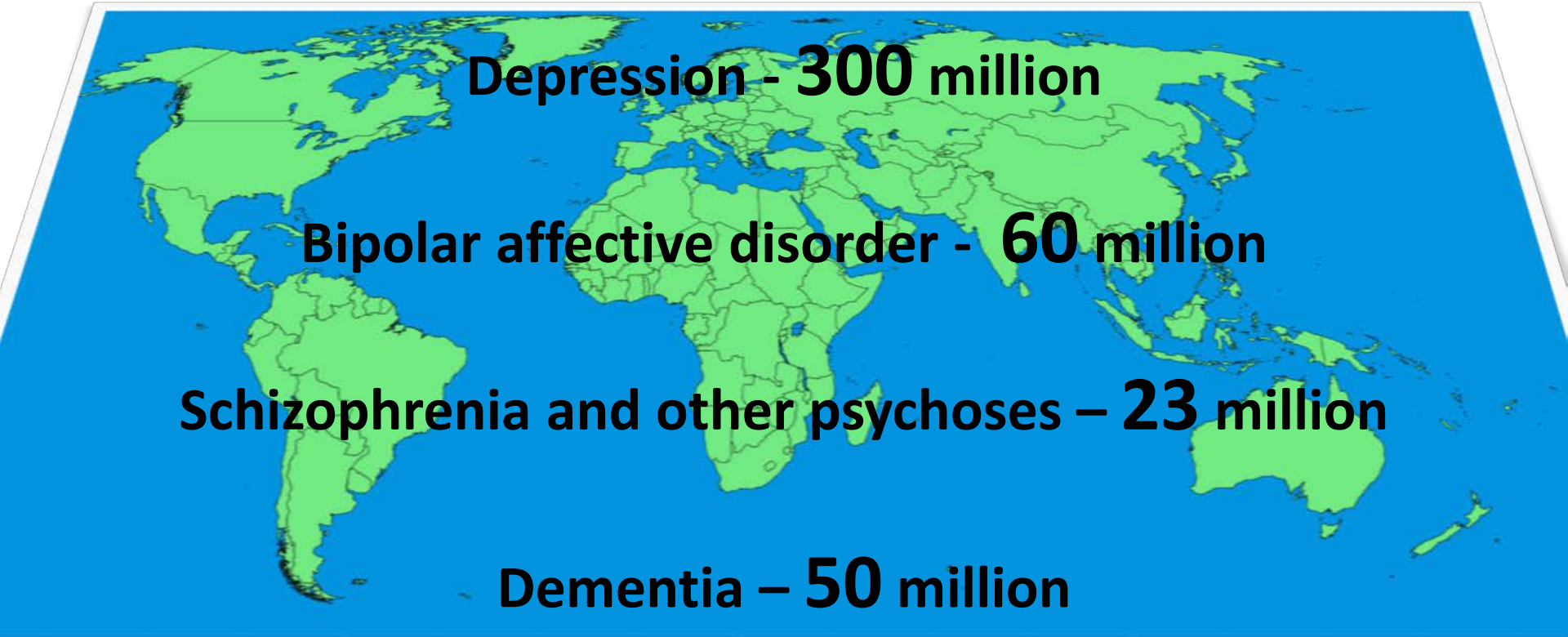
- Increase awareness of nurses' preparation to care for medical-surgical patients with mental illness.
- Gain understanding of leadership needed to empower a prepared nursing workforce for the care of medical-surgical patients with mental illness.

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Global Burden of Mental Disorders



Co-Morbidity of Mental and Medical Disorders

Mental Disorders

- < Depression
- < Bipolar Disorder
- < Anxiety Disorders
- < Substance Abuse
- < Impulse Control Disorder
- < Dementia
- < Delirium
- < Schizophrenia
- < Psychosis

Medical Disorders

- < Arthritis
- < Chronic Pain
- < Heart Disease
- < Stroke
- < Hypertension
- < Diabetes Mellitus
- < Asthma
- < Lung Disease
- < Peptic Ulcer
- < Cancer

GAP

Nurses' preparation for medical surgical patients with a secondary diagnosis of mental illness

The purpose of this study was to examine personal, educational and professional variables associated with nurses' preparedness to care for medical-surgical/ mental illness (MSMI) patients.

Methods

Descriptive Correlational Design

Piloted

Convenience sample

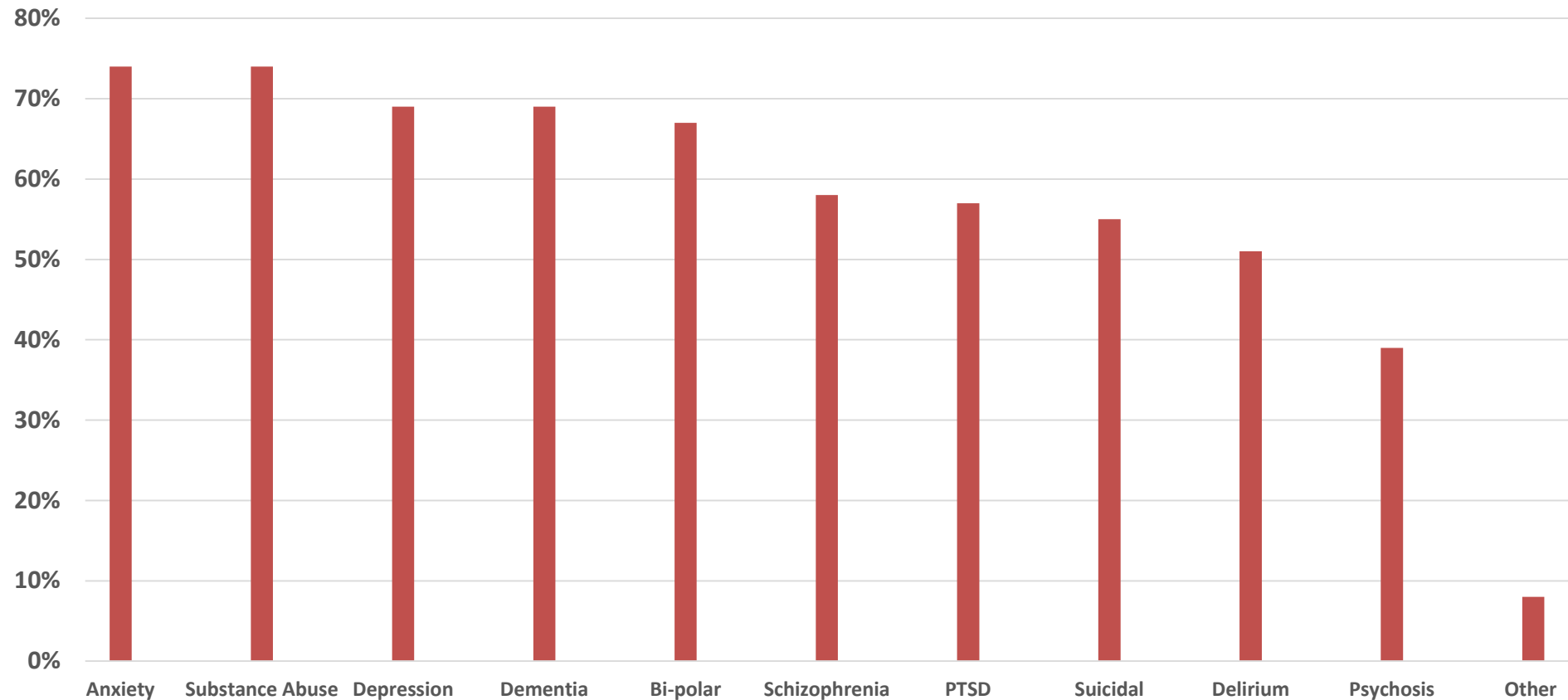
Medical-Surgical Nurses

Regional Health Organization (southeastern US)

Electronic Survey

($N = 260$)

Medical-Surgical Patient Mental Illness Diagnoses



Professional Characteristics

- < 6 years experience • 34%
- + 11 years experience • 66%
- No Continuing Education • 86%
- No Mentoring • 61%
- Provide care often + • 64%

Components of Professional Variable

- Years of Nursing Experience
 - Professional Certifications
- Continuing Education r/t Mental Illness
 - Frequency of Care for MSMI Patients
- Mentoring r/t Caring for MSMI Patients

Analysis – Professional Variable

Provided care often/All the time ($N=156$)

No Mentoring/No CE	51%
Mentoring/No CE	37%
Mentoring/CE	12%

Behavioral Health Care Competency Scale

(Rutledge, Wickman, Drake, Winokur and Loucks, 2012)

Assessment

Practice/Intervention

Drug Recommendation

Resource Adequacy

Can distinguish between delirium & dementia

Perceived Competence

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| • No Mentoring/No CE | • 64% |
| • Mentoring/No CE | • 71% |
| • Mentoring/CE | • 72% |

Can assess psych problem

Perceived Competence

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| • No Mentoring/No CE | • 73% |
| • Mentoring/No CE | • 83% |
| • Mentoring/CE | • 100% |

Can identify common medications

Perceived Competence

- | | |
|----------------------|--------|
| • No Mentoring/No CE | • 75% |
| • Mentoring/No CE | • 83% |
| • Mentoring/CE | • 100% |

Plan for more time

Perceived Competence

- | | |
|----------------------|-------|
| • No Mentoring/No CE | • 46% |
| • Mentoring/No CE | • 69% |
| • Mentoring/CE | • 78% |

Able to use de-escalation

Perceived Competence

- | | |
|----------------------|-------|
| • No Mentoring/No CE | • 58% |
| • Mentoring/No CE | • 83% |
| • Mentoring/CE | • 94% |

Can initiate appropriate interventions

Perceived Competence

- | | |
|----------------------|--------|
| • No Mentoring/No CE | • 59% |
| • Mentoring/No CE | • 84% |
| • Mentoring/CE | • 89 % |

Do recommend psychotropic drugs

Perceived Competence

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| • No Mentoring/No CE | • 28% |
| • Mentoring/No CE | • 36% |
| • Mentoring/CE | • 44% |

Able to recommend psychotropic drugs

Perceived Competence

- | | |
|----------------------|-------|
| • No Mentoring/No CE | • 35% |
| • Mentoring/No CE | • 43% |
| • Mentoring/CE | • 50% |

Hospital resources available when needed

Perceived Competence

- | | |
|----------------------|-------|
| • No Mentoring/No CE | • 54% |
| • Mentoring/No CE | • 69% |
| • Mentoring/CE | • 67% |

Help available when needed

Perceived Competence

- | | |
|----------------------|-------|
| • No Mentoring/No CE | • 55% |
| • Mentoring/No CE | • 67% |
| • Mentoring/CE | • 83% |

Future Implications

◀ **Continued Research for Improved MSMI Patient Outcomes**

◀ **Leadership**

◀ **Identify and Grow Mentors**

◀ **Units With Greatest Need**

◀ **Nursing Curriculum**

◀ **Continuing Education Offerings**

◀ **MSMI Patient Perspective**



