DNP Scholarly Paper: Implementation of a Web-Based Resource Directory to Promote Accessibility

of Local Resources for Community Health Nurses

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Author Note

On my honor, I pledge that I have neither given nor received any unauthorized assistance with

this assignment. – Jennifer Lam

Abstract

Background: Social determinants of health (SDOH) have significant influences on health outcomes, increase risk of health conditions, and lower life expectancy for disadvantaged individuals. Healthcare providers are essential in addressing SDOH by offering community resources to their patients. However, there are challenges with locating information for available resources for various social needs in a busy practice environment.

Purpose: This quality improvement project focused on implementing a centralized web-based directory of community resources to support nurses' workflow in improving accessibility to information for local resources.

Methods: Community health nurses (CHNs) participated in an educational session reviewing the directory, followed by an 8-week period of utilizing the directory during patient visits. This pilot project utilized a pre- and post-intervention design to evaluate participants' knowledge of local community resources. Additionally, a post-test only design was used to measure participants' satisfaction with the directory.

Results: Knowledge of community resources increased after the implementation of the directory. Participants were highly satisfied with the directory including the directory's usability, quality of information, and interface quality. A peak in directory usage was observed during the launch of directory, and a dramatic decline in use over time.

Conclusions: An easily accessible webpage directory consolidating local community resources is a promising clinical tool to increase nurses' knowledge of available community support and to empower the nurses to efficiently make referrals for a variety of social and healthcare needs.