

Impact of Inter-professional Education on Students' And Patients' Understanding on Health Literacy in The Community

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Objective

To investigate the learning outcomes and impact of inter-professional education (IPE) service-learning program for pre licensure health professionals, social workers, and nutritionists through implementing collaborative service-learning project about empowering health literacy in the community.

Goal & Themes

- To provide training to student volunteers so they can transfer the knowledges and improve elderly patients' overall health literacy and understanding of five themes:

Medication Safety	Cardiovascular Health	Healthy Diet	Health Voucher	Fake News
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Our Program

- Community Health And Medication-safety Promotion Inter-school Outreach Network (CU CHAMPION) is an inter-professional education (IPE) service-learning program at The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK).
- The current project demonstrated the impact of our IPE service-learning project about improving community dwelling elderly patients' health literacy from March to September 2019.

Students & IPE Activities

- 197 CUHK students of different disciplines participated in this project. Prior to the community outreach, the students had to attend one session of compulsory workshop to refine their health service and communication skills.
- Teachers from each discipline prepared e-learning materials for self learning purpose.
- The community outreach project provided students with the opportunities to work as a multi-disciplinary team and provide health service to elderly patients.

Students Composition	
Pharmacy	49
Food & Nutritional Sciences	40
Nursing	37
Medicine	25
Social Work	17
Biomedical Sciences	15
Public Health	11
Chinese Medicine	3

Implementation

- To achieve the goals, we had 3 streams of students led community outreach services for elderly patients.

1. Elderly Home Visit	2. Health Workshop Series	3. Health Check-up Services		
Provide care, home safety & health information	Provide health education about the 5 themes	Health Interview	Drug Safety & Health Topics Interpretation	Health Check-up & Assessment
				

Health Quiz

We implemented a quiz with all workshop series and health check-up services participants in order to assess their health literacy level and outcome of our knowledge transfer formats. The quiz consisted of 35 questions about the 5 themes in this project, and the maximum points available is 35.

Results & Findings

We conducted the quiz with all patients during health interview session of our Health Check-up Services. On the other hand, we carried out the same assessment with health workshop series patients upon the end of the last workshop session. As shown in Table 1, workshop series patients, who received health education intervention, tend to have better quiz result than their counterparts.

Furthermore, we invited all patients to conducted a non mandatory service feedback survey after attending our health check-up services. Consequently, we received 758 viable surveys.

According to the pre (n=174) & post (n=106) project assessments, the student volunteers enjoyed and were satisfied with the multi-disciplinary setting in community outreach. Furthermore, they acknowledged that the outreach was helpful to strengthen their knowledge and career goals.

Conclusion

Real-world service-learning activities are essential in providing practical inter-professional collaboration. In parallel with providing service, students can also learn valuable experience from patients and understand their needs. In addition, collaborating with other disciplines is helpful to broaden their prospective and knowledge on patient care and health literacy. Health intervention by students could also be a significant measure to improve patients' health literacy knowledge.

Quiz Result Comparison	Health Check-up Services	Health Workshop Series
Viable Patients	938	72
Quiz Entries		
Mean Score	21.8	26

Table 1

Patients' Feedbacks	
88%	94%
Claimed the services were helpful to enhance health literacy	Understood the information provided by the students

Students' Key Improvements			
+17.2%	+20.6%	+28%	+67%
Geriatric Care Knowledge (p<0.05)	Health Literacy (p<0.001)	Health Knowledge (p<0.05)	Attitude toward IPE (p<0.05)