Nursing Barriers With Implementation of a Triage-based Public Health Screening Program in an Urban ED

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Research support

• HIV Focus Program, Gilead Foundation
Background

• Universal HIV screening & Targeted HCV screening

• Triage based: screening performed by triage nurses

• Nursing participation critical to effective implementation
Objective

• To determine nursing satisfaction with the Public Health Screening program and identify potential barriers to implementation
The Survey

- Sent to all RN’s in ED via email
- Survey Monkey, Inc.
- 55 questions
- Likert scale for satisfaction
- Designed by MD’s/research team
- Domains: Perceptions, Attitudes, Satisfaction, Barriers
41. I am uncomfortable asking patients their HIV status (or if they are HIV positive) at triage.
   - Strongly agree
   - Agree
   - No opinion
   - Disagree
   - Strongly disagree

42. I am uncomfortable asking patients their Hepatitis C status (or if they are Hepatitis C positive) at triage.
   - Strongly agree
   - Agree
   - No opinion
   - Disagree
   - Strongly disagree

43. I am uncomfortable asking patients whether they use injection drugs during triage.
   - Strongly agree
   - Agree
   - No opinion
   - Disagree
   - Strongly disagree
The Results

- 42% response rate (65/153)
- 75% of respondents worked triage
Satisfaction

- 96% felt that the PHS “benefited the entire community”
- 80% agreed that PHS “improved overall ED care”
- 57% were satisfied with the program
Nursing experience

• “Uncomfortable asking” at triage
  • HIV: 39%
  • HCV: 34%
  • IVDU: 45%
Nursing experience

- 72% felt that PHS “interfered with triage efficiency”
- 41%: PHS “adversely affected flow”
## Barriers to offering testing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BARRIER</th>
<th>HIV</th>
<th>HCV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Barriers</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of Privacy</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ineligibility</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too Busy</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conclusion

- Strong support for PHS
- Execution met with substantial staff barriers/dissatisfaction
- Goal: Improve satisfaction to improve implementation
Acknowledgments

- Overcoming Health Disparities Conference
- Highland Hospital Nursing staff