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Health Literacy Dallas

Matthew Gayer
Southern Methodist University

M. C. Corey
Southern Methodist University

Austin Prentice
Southern Methodist University

Matthew Hendrick
Southern Methodist University

Michael Shapleigh
Southern Methodist University

See next page for additional authors

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Authors

Matthew Gayer, M. C. Corey, Austin Prentice, Matthew Hendrick, Michael Shapleigh, Stephen Armstrong, Jennifer Herring, Vincent Rossi, Natalie Kashefi, Christina Pham, Jake Fleming, Adriana Martinez, Jose Campos, Amrita Vir, Nicholas Burns, and Ashley Stockton

Health Literacy Dallas

Overview

- Description of Issue
- Past Work
- Current Efforts
- Future Projects

What is Health Literacy?

- Health Literacy is how patients understand, use, and obtain health information

What is Cultural Competency?

- Cultural Competency is effectively communicating across cultures
- Strong emphasis on broad definition of cultures – including race, age, gender, socioeconomic background, language, ethnicity, etc.

What is Clear Health Communication?

- It is an environment in which health information is communicated in a health literate and culturally competent fashion
- Focused on medical professionals as well as patients
- Systematic changes necessary

Where We Have Been

- Survey Pilot Study
- Website Creation
- 501(c)(3) nonprofit
- Staff Expansion
- Board of Directors creation
- Spoke at SAHLI conference 2009
- Spoke on OWH Region VI Expert Panel
- Community health Fairs

Where We Are

- Research Studies
- Intern Program
- Poster presenter at SAHLI 2010
- Speaker at Literacy Texas Conference
- Adult Education for Pregnant Teen Program
- United Way Council
- Creation of Health Literacy Texas

Research

- Medical Professional Aware of Patient Communication Issue
 - < 5 yrs exp. = 4.8% Agree
 - 20+ yrs exp. = 66.7% Agree or Strongly Agree
- 60% staff claim difficulty in cross cultural communication
- Medical Professional Believe Patient Does Not Properly Follow Instructions Often or Always
 - < 5 yrs exp. = 4.8% stated “often”
 - 20+ yrs exp. = 64.3% stated “often” or “always”

Research

- Medical Professionals Felt Better Communication Could Improve Patient Health
 - < 5 yrs experience = 61.9% Agree
 - > 5 yrs experience = 100% Agree
- 57.1% of staff with less than 5 years experience claimed no cultural competency training in last year, despite having had training

Where We Are Going

- Expansion of HLT
- Main phase of research
- More contributions to published works
- Expand adult education program
- Develop into regional leader
- Expand research project to other institutions
- Expand intern program

Health Literacy Texas

- Statewide coalition
- Members from across Texas and across several fields
- Interns dedicated to expansion
- Focused on information sharing and networking
- Following model of other successful state programs

Questions?

- www.healthliteracydallas.org
- www.healthliteracytexas.org

