The Power of Interprofessional Collaboration in Aging

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Learning Objectives

1. Gain an understanding of the importance of keeping patient & family needs/wants at the forefront of collaborative care management over time.

2. Utilize a strength-based, holistic approach to providing quality care of older adults through interprofessional collaboration.

3. Implement an effective teaching strategy incorporating the different views and expertise of professionals in a creative & innovative manner.
Background

• GECM Collaboration of:
  – Colleges of Human & Osteopathic Medicine
  – College of Nursing
  – School of Social Work
  – College of Communication Arts and Science
  – MSU Extension

• 4 regional community training teams
Setting

• Statewide conference
• Annual
• All day with CE’s for each discipline
• Dementia focus
• Participation of physicians diminishing
• Movement from case studies to more didactic content through lecture format
Recognizing the strength of interprofessional care, the value of person-centered care & the increasing complexity of dementia care – how can we engage a diverse audience of providers in aging to change their practice?
Interprofessional Team Collaboration

“Interprofessional collaboration is a partnership between a team of health providers and a client in a participatory collaborative and coordinated approach to shared decision making around health and social issues”

Canadian Interprofessional Health Collaborative (2010). A National Interprofessional Competency Framework
Interprofessional Team Approach

• Includes the: client, patient, resident, families, health care professionals
• Common goals
• Specific, valued roles, respect
• Effective communication
• Information sharing
• Shared decision-making, accountability
• Outcome focused
Strength-Based Approach
• Focus on relationships
  – Authentic, therapeutic
  – Dynamic; life-long process

• Empowering individuals

• Collaborative approach with mutually agreed upon goals

• Utilizing personal/family resources of motivation & hope

• Consider potential

• Creating sustainable change through education, counseling & support (Hammond, 2010)
Process/Development

• Identify an exemplar case that can highlight issues we want to focus on
  – Need for multiple lenses
  – Family involvement
  – Movement between “systems”

• Focus on changing relationships over course of advancing dementia
  – Family relationships
  – Provider relationships
The Case

Mrs. B

Mr. B

[Diagram showing relationships between family members]
The Program

• What the day looked like
  – Lecture
  – Case presentation in pieces
  – Break out sessions
    • Small groups
    • Each assigned a role (e.g. children, PCP)
    • Staff
  – Feedback sessions
    • Large group reports & opportunity for response
  – Evaluation
Feedback From Participants

• The case study exercise really highlighted the need for professionals to work together to provide the best possible support team for patients/clients & their family members.

• I am more aware of the holistic approach & the importance of this.

• The group activity was very interesting as there were lots of different thoughts. I will continue to encourage the staff to REALLY listen to the seniors they work with everyday.

• Great to see such a variety of health professionals interacting - I think more was learned from sharing the various perspectives.

• The case study allowed for good professional collaboration.
• The conference was a great opportunity to share experience & case study scenarios just to understand how interactions between all concerned removes obstacles & advances the quality of care.
• Gave me encouragement that my knowledge is needed & should also be considered.
• It was very nice to see how professionals in other fields view & assess dementia.
• It is so instructive to listen to other disciplines in health care & see that we face the same problems & need each other’s help to care for all patients.
• The break out session to discuss different perspectives of the case study was a terrific way to brainstorm & think about things from a fresh perspective - good way to network & feel successful in a collaborative environment.
Lessons Learned

• Expose audience to multiple perspectives

• Cases are engaging & encourage interprofessional learning

• Plant seed that change is a good thing

• Whole is stronger than sum of parts
  – You have lots of potential partners

• Provide resources
Questions

Thank You!