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Projects Focused on One of Four Areas

- Telehealth
- Electronic Health Records
- Clinical Decision Support
- Social Media
- Many practices began adopting new healthcare technologies
- Some students conducted technology focused DNP Capstone Projects



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Telehealth Project

Telehealth Stroke Prevention Education in Elderly Appalachian Virginians


Patty Schweickert, MSN, FNP, DNP Candidate



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Project Focused on Determining if Telehealth Stroke Education is as Effective as In-Person Education


- Involved quasi-experimental, non equivalent pretest-posttest control group design
- Conducted in Big Stone Gap, Virginia
- Utilized videoconference for TeleHealth session via University of Virginia



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Outcomes Suggest TeleHealth Stroke Education Comparable to In-person Education


- Suggests feasibility and effectiveness of TeleHealth stroke education for the rural elderly
- Offers model for expanded role of TeleHealth in patient education



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Results will be Presented at the American Telemedicine Association

- "Telehealth Stroke Prevention Education in Elderly Appalachian Virginians"
- May 2011
- Investigators/Presenters:
 - Patty Schweickert, MSN, FNP, DNP Candidate
 - Carolyn M. Rutledge, PhD, FNP



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EHR Project

Effectiveness of an EHR in Adherence to Asthma Guidelines with Children


Jennifer McMurray, DNP, CPNP



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Project Focused on Determining if an Asthma Template Improved Management in Children


- Involved retrospective review of chart prior to implementation of template and again after implementation of template
- Adherence to Asthma Guidelines and Patient Health Status Improved as a Result of Template



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Results Presented at the NAPNAP Annual Conference

- "Effectiveness of an EHR in Adherence to Asthma Guidelines with Children"
- April 2010
- Investigators/Presenters:
 - Jennifer McMurray, DNP, CPNP
 - Laurel Shepherd, PhD, PNP



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Internet Project

Using Web focused Nutritional Intervention on Weight loss and Dietary Behaviors in Primary care


Krystyna Caratachnea, DNP, CFNP



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Project Focused on Web-based Patient Education Program for Weight Loss


- Involved quasi-experimental, non equivalent pretest-posttest control group design
- Conducted in Family Practice Setting
- Intervention
 - Training on the selection and use of computer technology to teach obese patients about making healthy nutritional choices through web-based support
 - E-mailed reinforcement and encouragement on utilizing the web-based weight loss program accompanied



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Two Research Questions were Investigated


1. Will there be a pre-and post-difference in weight loss behaviors, subjective health, weight loss, and comfort in using web-based support in participants that receive the nutritional web-focused intervention program?
2. What is the difference in weight loss behaviors, subjective health, weight loss, and comfort in using web-based support between individuals that receive the web-focused nutritional intervention and those that do not receive the intervention?



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Significant Improvement in the Intervention Group


- The intervention group had significant weight loss while the comparison group did not change
- Intervention group was significantly more comfortable with using the computer after completing the program than the comparison group



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Results Presented at VCNP Annual Conference

- “The Impact of a Web-Focused Nutritional Intervention on Weight Loss and Dietary Behaviors in Primary Care”
- March 2010
- Investigators/Presenters:
 - Krystyna Caratachnea, DNP, CFNP
 - Carolyn Rutledge, PhD, FNP



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eCommunications Project
Electronic Communication in Pediatric Home Health:
Impact on Parental Well-Being and Satisfaction
Tina Haney MSN, CNS, DNP Candidate



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Project Focused on Providing Support for Parents of Homebound Children through eCommunication


- Involved pretest-posttest survey design using a convenience sample of parents of children associated with a pediatric home health agency located in a metropolitan city
- Intervention
 - Twelve week structured communication between an advanced practice nurse (APN) and parental caregivers
 - Weekly e-mail blasts of educational or parenting information selected for the special needs and interests of a parent with a medically fragile technologically dependent child
 - Supplemented by individual parent e-mails



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Pre and Post-intervention Differences in Self-reported Well Being and Satisfaction Not Significant

- Pre and post-intervention differences were not significant
 - Self reported well-being (PedsQL™ Family Impact Module) (p=.227)
 - Satisfaction scores (PedsQL™ Healthcare Satisfaction Module) (p =.528)
- Yet, parents voluntarily provided qualitative comments such as:
 - “It is nice to feel that someone cares”
 - “I sent the information to a friend”
- Twelve of nineteen requested the communication program continue




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Results Presented at National Association of CNS Annual Meeting

- “Electronic Communication in Pediatric Home Health: Impact on Parental Well-Being and Satisfaction”
- March 2011
- Investigators/Presenters:
 - Tina Haney, MSN, CNS, DNP Candidate
 - Kimberly Adams Tufts, DNP, FAAN




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Program Outcomes

- Educational programs focusing on healthcare technology can be affective in increasing the use of healthcare technologies in practice
- Students are able to take a leadership role in implementing and evaluating the use of technology in healthcare
- Students demonstrated the effectiveness of the four modalities in impacting healthcare outcomes



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