Preparing Primary Care APRNs in DNP Programs to Improve the Health of the Nation

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Background

IOM Report (March, 2012)
Primary Care & Public Health: Exploring Integration to Improve Population Health

• Report Findings
  – Necessary to improve outcomes & nation’s health, reduce costs
  – Core Principles
    Mutual awareness ➔ Cooperation ➔ Collaboration ➔ Partnership

APRNs
• APRN role in meeting HP 2020 goals
• Current emphasis on increasing Primary Care APRNs
  – Increases access to care
  – Critical in medically underserved communities

Primary Care APRN education
• Focused on direct care, specialty focus
• Basic public health content: epidemiology, policy, social determinants of health
• Insufficient to develop population-focused strategies
• Need for enhanced public health content

Rush Approach

The Challenge: Integrating Primary Care & Public Health at Rush

• History at MSN level
  – Advanced Public Health Nursing (APHN)
  – Family Nurse Practitioner

• Move to DNP
  – Opportunity to enhance integration
  – Program length challenge
  – Conceptualizing capstone project

Rush Curricula Examples

DNP Programs of Study with Public Health

• BSN to DNP for Primary Care NPs
  – Program focus for FNsPs

• Post MSN Enhancing Population Health Outcomes
  – Program focus

• BSN to DNP for APHN
  – Program focus
DNP Program of Study

Graduate Core
- Organizations & Systems
- Research
- Epidemiology & Biostats
- Health Promotion

DNP Core
- Leadership for Change
- Healthcare Economics, Policy
- Effective Project Planning
- DNP Project Planning
- Capstone Project

APN Core
- ‘3Ps’
- APRN role

Specialty Content
- Practicum/Residency

DNP Program of Study

BSN-DNP FNP
Post-MSN Enhancing Population Health Outcomes

Substitute Core Courses
- Health Promotion
- Effective Project Planning

Public Health Courses
- Population Health Assessment & Health Promotion Frameworks
- Population Intervention Planning, Implementation and Evaluation

Course Content

Population Health Assessment & Health Promotion Frameworks
- Public Health core concepts
- National health planning; advanced roles in health planning
- Population, cultural, org assessment models
- Data collection methods & sources, info systems, health indicators
- Population level analysis, application of epi models
- Data synthesis, problem identification, validation, prioritizing
- Problem statement
- Health promotion theories
- Application of models to population level interventions

Population Health Intervention Planning, Implementation and Evaluation
- Approaches for sustainable programs, collaboration, leadership
- Planning models, measurable objectives
- Interventions, conceptual & evidence based approaches
- Methods & strategies for culturally tailored programs/interventions
- Program budgeting, methods of control
- Granstmanship, funding process, resources
- Implementation strategies, management
- Program evaluation: frameworks, design, measures & measurement, data collection & analysis, reporting

DNP Capstone Project

Site Selection
- Advisor and DNP Student
- Agency Partnerships
- Identification of Department Foci/Expertise
- Use of Adjunct Faculty

DNP Project Examples

Examples: Communities/Populations Served
- Pregnant/parenting teens - SBHC
- Pregnant/parenting women - substance abuse program
- Low income food service workers – employee health setting
- High risk adolescents – SBHC
- Latinas - domestic violence shelter
DNP Project Examples

Project Focus
• Peer support for breastfeeding
• Mammogram screening
• Violence prevention: school, worksetting
• Workplace injury prevention

Course Assignments

• Data Collection & Analysis Plan
  – Target population
  – Model driven plan
  – Data sources & qualitative/quantitative methods
  – Data comparisons, benchmarks
• Population Assessment Report
  – Analysis of findings, with literature review
  – Problem identification, data supported
  – Stakeholder validation plan

Course Assignments

• Program Plan Part 1
  – Problem statement, data & literature support, guiding model
  – Program goals, measurable objectives
  – Intervention plan with methods/timeline, evidential support, budget, tailored to population
• Program Plan Part 2
  – Evaluation framework, questions and methods
• Program Plan Part 3
  – Written Proposal

Lessons Learned

• Reinforced prior experience leadership DNP
  – Critical need for evidence to support assumed need/problem
• Advance work
  – Advisor development, communication
  – Agency selection, buy-in, stakeholders
  – Identification of population, problem focus

Lessons Learned

• Use of planning/assessment framework to guide process
• Faculty effort related to
  – Partnering with population and community members
  – Appropriate project and scope for APRN role
• Student concern - time involvement
  – Project planning time versus implementation effort
  – Allocation of practicum hours

Outcomes to Date

• Current Projects/Foci
• Student Feedback – course evaluations
• Faculty Comments on the Process
Next Steps

- Exploration with other primary care specialties focused on vulnerable populations: PNP, PMHNP, AGNP
- Comparing DNP project experiences
  - Student preparation for DNP Project Planning courses, project implementation
  - Quality of projects
- Graduate outcomes data

Ultimate IOM Goal