



Interprofessional Collaborative Practice within the Community: A Needs Assessment

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Abstract:

Purpose: A well-designed content-valid questionnaire is a key data collection tool in interprofessional collaborative practice (ICP) research. The purpose of this study was twofold. First was to develop a content-valid Interprofessional Collaboration Assessment Survey Instrument that can be used in ICP research. Second, was to explore the scope of IPC within the community using the content-valid questionnaire. Subjects Subjects were employed in a profession that required interprofessional communication, teamwork and collaboration as identified by the CHHS research team on IPC. Method An interprofessional panel of 11 subject matter experts evaluated the 54 items of the Interprofessional Collaboration Assessment Survey for content relevance and content clarity. A descriptive design using an online survey method was used to explore IPC within the community. Instrument The Interprofessional Collaboration Assessment Survey was designed by the CHHS research team on IPC. Content validity index (CVI) analysis of the survey was completed prior to distribution. CVI Results CVI analysis: Content Relevance at the overall scale level (S-CVI) = 0.968, Content clarity at the overall scale level (S-CVI) = 0.847, exceeding the minimum .80 criteria for content validity in both measures. Survey results: • N = 170, 80% worked directly with clients/patients/students. • 49% knew some, but not all of the roles and responsibilities of professions in which they collaborated within their organization. • 60% knew some but not all of the roles and responsibilities of professions in which they collaborated inter-organizationally. • 86% identified they had either 'good' or 'excellent' interprofessional communication skills, and 87% either 'good' or 'excellent' teamwork skills within their organization. • 83% identified they had either 'good' or 'excellent' interprofessional communication skills, and 86% either 'good' or 'excellent' teamwork skills inter-organizationally. Conclusion There is a body of evidence that suggests understanding roles and responsibilities as a key component of effective communication and teamwork. However, participants in this study identified perceived knowledge gaps in the domain of 'roles and responsibilities,' but good or excellent skills in communication and teamwork. This is an interesting finding and worthy of further investigation.