

Building a foundation: integrating social determinants of health education in nursing foundations course

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Abstract

Healthy People 2030 (n.d.) defines social determinants of health (SDOH) as the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality of life outcomes and risks. SDOH also contribute to wide health disparities and inequities. In the Future of Nursing 2020-2030 report (2021), there is an emphasis on health equity and the role of the nurses in addressing the social needs of individuals and families to achieve health equity. The report puts forth a recommendation for nursing education to integrate the SDOH in the curriculum to prepare future nurses to take an active role in identifying and addressing health inequities. The Nation League of Nursing

(2019) found that currently, SDOH are not well integrated into undergraduate and graduate nursing education. Because of the lack of knowledge, the future nursing workforce may not be prepared to discuss SDOH and mitigate impact of SDOH on health outcomes. The education of future nurses can be more intentional about preparing nurses to promote good health and wellbeing for all by integrating content on the social determinants of health throughout nursing curriculum. This poster will describe curriculum developed to provide a social determinants of health perspective in the Foundations of Nursing: Health Promotion course. This course occurs during the first term of both the Accelerated Bachelor of Science with a major in Nursing and traditional 3-year Bachelor of Science with a major in Nursing programs offered on the OHSU School of Nursing Portland campus. It is anticipated that this curriculum will be introduced during the Foundations of Nursing course in the summer of 2023. Learning strategies will include an introduction to SDOH, group work, case based learning and intentional reflections for students. The anticipated outcomes of the education will be an increase in student's ability to identify SDOH and the impacts poverty, economic or employment opportunities, education, and discrimination as they relate to health care access and health outcomes. Students will have increased confidence in the ability to assess for and discuss SDOH with patients and families. Outcomes will be measured with pre and post survey assessing student knowledge of SDOH and their perceived confidence in ability to discuss SDOH with patients and families.

Learning Objectives

- 1. Participants will be able to describe the relevance of SDOH in nursing education.
- 2. Participants will summarize learning strategies applicable to teaching SDOH.

References

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