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Research Week 2022

Determining Potential Impact of Culturally Sensitive Nutritional Counseling amongst the Bangladeshi Community

Mahfujul Haque, BS¹, Arif Hussain, BS², Ferdous Nipu, BS³, Mashkur Hussain, MD⁴ hussa118@msu.edu

¹Michigan State University College of Human Medicine, East Lansing, MI, ²Michigan State University College of Natural Science, East Lansing, MI, ³Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, East Lansing, MI, ⁴Downriver Heart and Vascular Specialist, 15150 Fort Street Downriver Area, Southgate, MI

Keywords

Nutrition, cultural competence, provider education, cardiovascular disease

Abstract

Background

The Bangladeshi population in the Detroit Metropolitan (MP) area is significant. The leading cause of mortality amongst Bangladeshis is cardiovascular disease (CDC). Providers typically manage this through nutrition counseling. There is a growing need to provide resources to specifically care for this population. The purpose of this study is to conduct knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs (KAP) survey of medical providers in the Detroit MP area to understand their views and ideas. Given the diverse backgrounds of patients, physicians must have a fundamental understanding of different cultures to provide the best care for patients. Thus, in a sample of providers that care for Bangladeshis, how effective would culturally-competent nutrition counseling be viewed as opposed to the current homogenous approach?

Methods

Our study approach follows a mixed-methods design. Phase 1 (PRE) involved a KAP survey to ascertain the views of providers regarding potentially implementing change and current understanding. A virtual KAP survey was administered to 250 out-patient medical providers in the Detroit MP area. After interviewing the providers, we determined whether culturally tailored nutrition management is deemed necessary by the provider. In Phase 2 (POST) we provided interventional resources that are tailored to the Bangladeshi community to clinics. We then conducted post-interviews with providers using the same survey. By uploading the PRE and POST results in RedCap, we statistically analyzed and determined the effectiveness of our intervention.

Results and Conclusion

Medical providers viewed these competent plans and resources as necessary and essential in providing quality care to patients. We were able to conclude that medical providers were interested in adopting culturally-tailored approaches to reduce the risk of chronic morbidities amongst this population they care for to improve outcomes. We hope that the study will foster further research in culturally competent care for all patients.