



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

**HERSCHEL S. HOROWITZ CENTER
FOR HEALTH LITERACY**

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Health Literacy and Interprofessionalism: Educating Health Professional Student Teams in Health Literacy

October 21, 2020

Health Literacy in Action/Health Literacy Annual
Research Conference



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Faculty Team

- Faculty co-facilitators
 - Cynthia Baur (UMCP)
 - Elsie Stines (UMB)
- MPower
 - Adrienne Arthur
 - Steering Committee
- Center for Health Literacy (UMCP)
 - Alice Horowitz
 - Catherine Maybury
- UMB Faculty
 - Melissa Bellin (SSW)
 - Lisa Bress (SOD)
 - Heather Congdon (SOP)
 - Lori Edwards (SON)
 - Kathi Hoke (SOL)
 - Jill Morgan (SOP)
 - Yolanda Ogbolu (SON)
 - Sandra Quezada (SOM)
 - Debra Rodriguez (SOD)
 - Everett Smith Jr (SSW)
 - Lauren Wheeler
 - Mary Ann Williams

University of Maryland College Park (UMCP) &
University of Maryland Baltimore (UMB)



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Student Team (UMCP & UMB)

- Kelsie Challenger (SPH)
- Elisabeth Fassas (SOM)
- Sonia Galvan (SON)
- Dominique Gelman (SOM)
- Karen Jung (SOD)
- Alice Lu (SOP)
- Jocelyn Wang (SOL)
- Social work & 2nd nursing student joined fall 2020



Program Overview

- 10-week summer research opportunity for students
- Program sponsor/funder
 - MPower, formal partnership between University of Maryland College Park & University of Maryland Baltimore
- Willing to fund multiple students for interprofessional experience



Project Questions

- How are health professions, social work & law students being educated about health literacy?
- How is this education being evaluated?
- What are the most effective ways to promote an interprofessional approach to health literacy education & skill development?
- What types of policies would promote an interprofessional, health literate workforce?



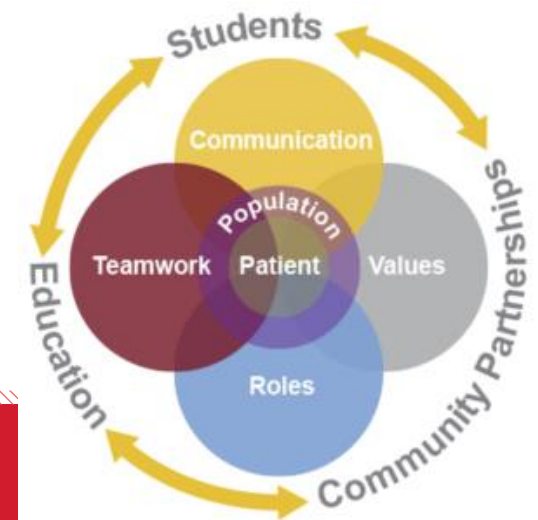
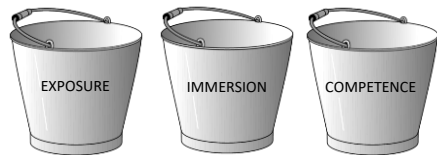
Interprofessional Competencies

- Coleman, Hudson & Pederson 2017 report on prioritized health literacy & clear communication practices
 - 7-8 practices shared across disciplines
- Provided list to assess literature & curricula



Interprofessional Education (IPE)

- Health literacy is multi-faceted & team-based approach is warranted
- UMB has a Center for Interprofessional Education, launched in 2013
 - Provides students from two or more disciplines opportunity to collaborate & improve health outcomes



IPE & Health Literacy

- Example of team-based approach to health literacy
 - Interprofessional Team Care Clinics in Montgomery County, Maryland
 - Patients: Low-income, uninsured, primarily Latino patients with uncontrolled diabetes and a psychosocial condition
 - Students: Pharmacy, Nursing (DNP/FNP), Social Work, Dietetics
 - Tools to Address Health Literacy
 - Chronic disease, nutrition & medication education
 - Manna Food Center
 - Medbank & Pharmadex
 - Financial Counselor onsite



IPE Application: President's Clinic

- President's Interprofessional Clinic
 - UMB students recruited from 6 schools
 - Attend 3 didactic sessions
 - Attend Pediatric Gastroenterology Clinic
- Goal
 - Broaden students' knowledge, attitudes & beliefs regarding interprofessional team-based care



President's Clinic & Health Literacy

- Social determinants of health
 - Introduction & overview of social determinants of health
- Health literacy as a social determinant
 - Didactic session
 - Case study
 - Clinic



Oral Health & Interprofessionalism

- Dentistry & medicine have been silos since first dental school opened
- Serious consequences hurt most vulnerable & contribute to disparities
- Some signs of interprofessionalism



Oral Health & Health Literacy

- Individuals with low levels of oral health literacy
 - Lower levels of knowledge of disease
 - Higher rates of disease
 - Fewer preventive dental visits
 - Increased no show rates
 - Lower level of oral health quality of life
 - Unaware of relationship of diabetes/gum disease



Health Sciences & Human Services Library Perspectives

- Library's interests
 - Health literacy workshops
 - Strategic plan
- Contribution to literature search
 - Determined type of review
 - Search techniques & terms
 - Discipline specific databases
 - Citation manager
 - Challenges: different vocabularies & access



Medical Student Perspective

- Health literacy in medical education
 - Global view: licensing standards
 - Summary of literature review
- Areas for growth
 - Standardization of HL education
 - Real-world application to patient care
 - Interprofessional collaboration



Nursing Student Perspective

- Health literacy in nursing education
 - Brief summary of the literature
 - Represented in *patient education & communication*
- Areas for growth
 - Integration
 - Consistency, language
 - Evaluation



Medical/Nursing Student Collaborations

- Associate's degree in nursing teaching partnership
- Health literacy themed clinical replacement
 - Prep work
 - Didactic/active learning module
 - Medicine/nursing collaborative perspective



Discussion Questions

- How might education within & across disciplines need to change?
- What about faculty & administrator readiness?
- Where might we get “stuck” changing education & how can we get “unstuck”?



More Information

- Horowitz Center for Health Literacy
 - <https://sph.umd.edu/center/hchl>

- UMB President's Symposium & White Paper Project
 - <https://www.umaryland.edu/ile/presidents-symposium--white-paper-project/>

