Increasing the Use and Access to Public Resources to Improve Patient Health Outcomes at Jackson Hinds Comprehensive Health Center

Jashalynn German
Jackson Hinds Comprehensive Health Center
Jackson, Mississippi
Introduction

- A common aspect of Jackson Hinds Comprehensive Health Center (JHCHC) and other CHCs alike is the mission to provide primary and preventative healthcare and social services to its patients.

- CHC’s serve a complex patient population that provides undoubtedly evidence of the Biopsychosocial Model
Background

- Mississippi suffers disproportionately from chronic diseases such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, kidney disease and cancer.
- Higher Mortality Rates for these disease compared to National averages

- According to the 2004-2013 Mississippi State Plan, cardiovascular disease was the cause of 41% of all deaths in the state in 2011
**Methodology**

- Week long “mini rotations”
  - Women’s Health, Adult Medicine and Pediatrics
  - Subjective and objective data collection via patient interviewing and electronic medical records

- Windshield Survey
  - Parks/ Green Space
  - Healthy Food Options

- Create Patient Resource Book
Results

• Common Medical Issues
  • Adult Medicine- HTN, DM, Gout, Excessive Alcohol/ Tobacco Use
  • Women’s Health- Late Prenatal care, STI’s
  • Pediatrics- asthma, obesity and eczema

• Common social issues
  • Can’t afford medication or visits
  • Teenage pregnancy
  • Low education

• From windshield survey able to assess which communities have green space and healthy eating options
Discussion

- It is not possible to discuss improved patient health outcomes without first discussing the social determinants that directly effect patient’s health.

- Obesity, sedentary lifestyles and excessive alcohol/tobacco are common risk factors for numerous chronic diseases.
  - But these are all modifiable factors and so I chose to focus the project on these aspects.
Discussion

- **Strengths:**
  - Patient’s social needs were assessed through conversational data collection. This eliminated literacy, reading level and educational level biasness.
  - Conducted mini rotations in different departments at different clinic sites, which gave a more accurate depiction of general patient population.

- **Weaknesses**
  - Time constraints

- **Future Research direction**
  - Conduct windshield survey on adjacent major cities
Recommendations

- Continue to take hands on approach to rectify social disparities
  - increase patient awareness about resources available in the community and national level
  - Increase the use of printed patient education material
  - Increase the social services staff placed in clinics
Conclusion

• According to the biopsychosocial model, social factors do indeed play a direct role in the overall health of an individual.

• By continuing to target modifiable risk factors and social disparities we should see an increase in patient outcomes
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