An educational intervention improved the L&D nursing unit's confidence in caring for LGBTQ+ clients

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Introduction

LGBTQ+ families experience barriers to inclusive healthcare, especially reproductive health care. Nurses have the potential to impact this experience.

Problem

Nurses on L&D self identified as feeling to effectively care for LGBTQ+ clients when they presented to L&D.

Aim and Objectives

To increase the confidence level of nurses on the labor and delivery unit when caring for caring for LGBTQ+ patients by 50 % from pre to post survey, as measured by Likert scores on the modified LGBT-DOCSS survey tool.

Methods

PDSA Cycle:

Deliver a pre-survey, implement education tool, conduct post survey, analyze data, adapt, abandon, or adopt educational tool:

- Survey tool developed to assess level of confidence/knowledge about LGBTQ+ care
- Voice over PowerPoint developed to serve as educational intervention
- Link to anonymous pre and post survey tool and VOPP emailed to L&D nurses in Oct 2022
- Demographic data and survey results collected through December 2022.



"I feel competent to assess a client who is LGBTQ+ in a clinical setting"

- Mean Likert scores showed an increase in perceived competence when assessing LGBTQ+ clients in L&D
- The goal of a 50% increase was not achieved, though pre-survey baseline was significantly higher than expected.
- Given this, the current tool was not rolled out to other clinicians on our unit. We could still use the pre-survey to determine if other units might benefit from the educational tool.

Demographic characteristics of respondents N=26

	Years as a Nurse			Years in Reproductive Health Care		
	Zero to five	6	24 %	Zero to five	15	58%
	Five to ten	10	38%	Five to ten	4	16%
	Ten to fifteen	4	16%	Ten to fifteen	3	12%
	Fifteen to twenty	0	0%	Fifteen to twenty	1	4%
	Twenty plus	6	24%	Twenty plus	3	12%

Implications for practice

- A self paced educational tool can have an impact on care providers' perception of readiness to care for LGBTQ+ clients
- A strength of this project was its simple delivery format, while a major limitation was the fact that surveys were unmatched, so I was unable to track individual changes, or correlate any demographic data with Likert scores.
- Next steps could include querying other departments to determine if there is a need for any interventions, or to revise the current educational tool to be more impactful across our own unit.

