Using Problem Based Learning to Analyze Health Policy

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Purpose/Objectives

• Describe a health policy course addressing DNP Essential V
• ID the characteristics of evidence that determine health policy
  – Effectiveness
  – Efficiency
  – Equity

DNP Essential V:
Health Care Policy for Advocacy in Health Care

The DNP program prepares the graduate to:
1. Critically analyze health policy …from the perspective of stakeholders …
2. Demonstrate leadership in the development & implementation of institutional, local, state, federal, and/or international health policy.
3. Influence policy makers through active participation …to improve health care delivery and outcomes.
4. Educate others…regarding nursing, health policy, and patient care outcomes.
5. Advocate for the nursing profession within the policy and healthcare communities.
6. Develop, evaluate, and provide leadership for health care policy that shapes health care financing, regulation, and delivery.
7. Advocate for social justice, equity, and ethical policies within all healthcare arenas.

AACN, 2006
"Care should be safe, effective, efficient, timely, personalized & equitable" (IOM, Crossing the Quality Chasm, 2001).

- Is the health policy effective?
- Is the health policy efficient?
- Is the health policy equitable?

Effectiveness
Examines the benefits of healthcare measured by improvements in health.

Efficiency
Relates health improvements to the resources required to produce them.
Equity

Concerned with health disparities & the fairness & effectiveness of the procedures for addressing them.

Health Services Research

“…examines the
• use,
• costs,
• quality,
• accessibility
• delivery,
• organization,
• financing &
• outcomes of healthcare services
to increase knowledge & understanding of the structure, processes & effects of health services for individuals & populations” (IOM, 1995, p. 17).

Population Health

Examine selected health policies (actual or proposed) for specific population health problems through the lens of evidence to support the policy because it is effective, efficient & equitable.
Required Texts


Policy Analysis Framework

- Identify the population health problem.
- Identify the health policy.
- Discuss key stakeholders/factors.
- Identify, analyze & summarize evidence.
- Make policy recommendation based on the evidence.
- Discuss strategies for influencing policy, educating stakeholders & advocating for patients & the nursing profession.

Course Grade

- 10% Discussion (Individual)
- 20% Effectiveness Analysis (Group)
- 20% Efficiency Analysis (Group)
- 20% Equity Analysis (Group)
- 20% Presentation (Group)
- 10% Peer Evaluations (Individual)
- 100%
Discussion
Individual Assignment
• Reading assignment
• Article on mammography in the older population
• Position
• Discussion posting
• Discussion response

Population Health Problems
• Infectious Diseases
• Cardiovascular Diseases
• Respiratory Diseases
• Orthopedic Chronic Diseases
• Cancers
• Violence, Injury & Occupational Health
• Mental Health
• Environmental Health
• Reproduction Health
• Infant & Child Health
• Older Adult Health
• Nutritional Health

Policy Examples
• National School Lunch Program
• Colon-rectal screening
• Use of spirometry in COPD
• The impact of paying clinicians for the utilization of clinical guidelines to control Diabetes in older adults
• Requiring infant hepatitis B vaccination
• Routine HPV vaccination in reducing the incidence & mortality of cervical cancer
• A comprehensive, nationwide asthma surveillance system
Three Papers

Analysis of
• Effectiveness evidence
• Efficiency evidence
• Equity evidence

Presentation
• Synthesis of three papers
• Strategies
  — Influence policy
  — Educate stakeholders
  — Advocate for patients
  — Advance nursing profession
    • nursing research, clinical practice & political action.

True or False?
• A DNP health policy course based on the Essentials can facilitate a student’s understanding of the IOM’s call for safe, effective and equitable health care policies.
• A health policy can be effective but not efficient.
• A health policy can be effective but not equitable.
• A health policy can be efficient but not equitable.
• Health policy should be based on evidence.
QUESTIONS?