PRESENTED AT THE 2011 DNP CONFERENCE

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Title: Educating DNP students about health policy and its impact on chronic illness management

Purpose: To inform conference participants about ways of engaging students in learning about health policy, its effect on management of chronic illness, and their participation in the change process.

Objective 1: Participants will be able to name three elements of political influence/change process

Objective 2: Participants will be able to name two chronic illness management models

Objective 3: Participants will be able to identify a minimum of two components of the Affordable Care Act that impact chronic illness management

Abstract:

The purpose of this presentation/poster is to share insights into useful components of a chronic illness management course for DNP students, specifically as to how students can be educated regarding the basic tenets of policy change and how health policy affects the day to day clinical workings of the DNP's management of chronic illness. Examples of course content and assignments requiring systems and policy change recommendations and analysis of legislation affecting students' practice will be presented to participants to encourage educators to incorporate this most essential aspect of indirect patient care into the curriculum. Without knowledge of health policy and its effect on chronic illness management, there is considerably less likelihood that DNPs will engage in action to change poor policies that affect their practice and the health of the nation.