Development and Implementation of a Pediatric Bullying Education Presentation Specific to the Role of School Nurses

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Purpose

- Bullying is a pervasive problem plaguing the pediatric population.
- Knowledge enhances the school nurses and APRNs ability to recognize and intervene in response to bullying within the school.
- The purpose of this project is to evaluate the knowledge of Hillsborough County School Nurses and APRNs regarding bullying that is specific to this population.

Description of the Problem

- 14.9%: Electronically bullied
- 19.0%: Bullied at school

Significance of the Problem

- Increase in School Shootings: 94 school gun violence incidents in 2018 alone (59% increase from the previous record of 59 in 2006)
- Increase in Youth Suicides: Youth suicide rate increased by 33% since 2009 (second leading cause of death)
- School nurses and APRNs need the skills to assess, identify, and intervene when necessary.
- School nurses and APRNs require additional education regarding their role in bullying as a school health professional.

Methods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended Bullying Education for School Nurses 1.9.19-20</th>
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<tr>
<td>National Association of School Nurses (NASN)</td>
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<td>Florida</td>
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- Definitions of bullying
- Somatic complaints of bullying victims
- Screening bullied children for anxiety, depression, suicidal ideation
- Social media applications
- Prevention programs to be managed by school nurses
- Assessment and referral

- Definitions of bullying, aggression, long-term consequences
- Identification and assessment of bullied victims
- Somatic complaints of bullying victims

- Definitions of bullying, aggression, symptoms
- Identification and assessment of bullied victims
- Somatic complaints of bullying victims
- Short-term and long-term affects of bullying

Results

- Pre-Survey:
  - School nurses and APRNs identified gap in knowledge of bullying
  - Lowest survey-reported knowledge level:
    - Knowledge of what to ask and/or what to say to a child suspected of being bullied
    - Knowledge regarding role in bullying as a school health professional

- Post-Survey:
  - School nurses and APRNs showed an increase in knowledge across all 7 survey questions of specific areas of knowledge within the bullying problem

Discussion

- An educational presentation, provided to School nurses and APRNs, demonstrated an increase in knowledge regarding all sub-topics of bullying, specific for this population.
- Higher chances of victims of bullying being identified can lead to proper intervention and referral for an appropriate safety plan for these children and their families.

Recommendations

- Expansion of Bullying specific education focused on identification of bullying victims in the school clinic and the role of the school nurses and APRNs in mitigating the impact of bullying.
- Development of a Bullying toolkit and clinical guideline for school nurses and APRNs.

Theoretical Framework

References


University of South Florida College of Nursing
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