Creation of an Internal Resource for Provider-Specific LGBTQ Information

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The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Other (LGBTQ) population faces health care disparities when compared to the general population. This population faces higher incidences of poor health outcomes and health risk behaviors, in addition to facing lower levels of health insurance and lacking a regular source of health care. Part of this gap in health outcomes is the result of low rates of LGBTQ-specific training in medical school and medical practices. LGBTQ patients, particularly transgender patients, perceive their providers as lacking the training to provide for their specific health needs.

We propose the creation of an internal resource created for providers with easily accessible LGBTQ-related health information regarding LVHN policy, referral services, community services, and clinical knowledge to address the real and perceived lack of LGBTQ-specific training of health care providers.

Methods

- Choosing resources
  - Easily accessible, easy to navigate, reflect best practices
  - Commonly referenced by large organizations (HRC, UCSF, Mazzoni Center, and the AAFP)
- Choosing referral resources
  - Online search for community resources and contacting the Bradbury Sullivan Center in Allentown, PA
- Survey Creation
  - Questions created to assess grouped topic categories
  - Freeresponse questions
  - Survey created with REDCap
- Survey Distribution
  - Primary care providers in Family, Internal, and Pediatric Medicine

Results

Data collection has not yet been completed for this study. A survey created on REDCap will be used to evaluate whether the information included in the resource meets providers’ needs for LGBTQ-related health information in general and for specific categories. Below is the survey as it appeared on Survey Monkey as well as a sample page from the resource.

Survey

1. Please indicate whether you strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements:
   - This resource meets my needs for LGBTQ-related information in the following categories,
   - Information on treatment plans
   - Information on medical procedures
   - Information on medical policies

Sample Page from Resource

Sample questions include:

- HIV and AIDS
- Hepatitis C
- STDs
- Caregiver issues
- Violence against women
- Violence against men
- Violence against transgender

Discussion

Presently, results have not been gathered, so it is difficult to draw conclusions about the impact of this resource. The study team anticipates that the information resource will meet provider’s educational needs and create an avenue for lasting improvement of health care for the LGBTQ community.

Conclusions

REFERENCES