The Interprofessional Psychosocial Oncology Distance Education (IPODE) Project: Three Years of Outcomes

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Goals for the Project

- To increase opportunities for interprofessional learning in psychosocial oncology at the university graduate level in the health professions /medicine and as continuing education.

- To have it available across Canada via online synchronous and asynchronous interaction in both English and French.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Pre-survey (Nurses)</th>
<th>Post – survey (Nurses)</th>
<th>Z score (Nurses)</th>
<th>Z score (Others)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*I would like to work in oncology/psychosocial oncology</td>
<td>2.58 (1-5)</td>
<td>2.09 (1-5)</td>
<td><strong>-2.335</strong></td>
<td>-.814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Improving interprofessional practice is likely to improve health outcomes</td>
<td>1.72 (1-5)</td>
<td>1.15 (1-2)</td>
<td><strong>-2.869</strong>*</td>
<td>-1.147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The culture of my profession is very different to the culture of other professions</td>
<td>2.75 (1-5)</td>
<td>2.91 (2-4)</td>
<td>-.817</td>
<td>-2.333 **</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I have a comprehensive understanding of the roles of other health professions</td>
<td>2.62 (1-5)</td>
<td>2.06 (1-4)</td>
<td>**-3.33 ***</td>
<td>**-3.955 ***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I feel confident interacting with practitioners from other disciplines</td>
<td>2.36 (1-4)</td>
<td>1.75 (1-2)</td>
<td>**-3.56 ***</td>
<td>**-2.490 **</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*I usually gain high levels of satisfaction from my interprofessional interactions</td>
<td>2.32 (1-5)</td>
<td>1.89 (1-4)</td>
<td><strong>-2.50</strong></td>
<td>-.433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*I believe I am highly effective at interprofessional collaboration</td>
<td>2.51 (1-5)</td>
<td>2.04 (1-5)</td>
<td><strong>-2.778</strong>*</td>
<td><strong>-0.814</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I need to improve my interprofessional effectiveness</td>
<td>1.94 (1-4)</td>
<td>2.34 (1-5)</td>
<td>**-2.71 ***</td>
<td>**-5.360 ***</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: 1=strongly agree, 2=agree, 3=uncertain, 4=disagree, 5=strongly disagree

** P<.05, *** P<.01
Themes Included:

- psychosocial oncology as a practice
- shifting practice to the relational and
- Interprofessional collaboration
- personal wellbeing in oncology nursing (nurses)
Theme II: Shifting practice to the relational

- I learned that just being present and sitting and listening, often without the need for an answer, is therapeutic in itself. Patients sometimes need to have their story acknowledged.

- I listen differently to my clients. I listen for more cues and clues for deeper issues, which may be impacting their journey. As a result I am able to provide more appropriate support to them.
Current IPODE Course Titles
10 Partner Universities

- Interprofessional Psychosocial Oncology: Introduction to Theory & Practice (Jan. 2008)
- Families in Oncology & Palliative Care (Sept 2009)
- Screening for Distress (June 2011)
- Sexual Health Counseling (Part I & II; 2011)
- Therapeutic Practices for Distress Management (Fall 2012)