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Can a Geriatric Workshop for Emergency Nurses Change their Knowledge, Attitudes, and Behaviors in Caring for Older Adults?



Care Health


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FORUM PRESENTER:
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Purpose of My Study

To explore the effect of an educational intervention on attitudes and knowledge of ED nurses toward the older adult patient and their intentions to change their care behaviors toward this population in the emergency department




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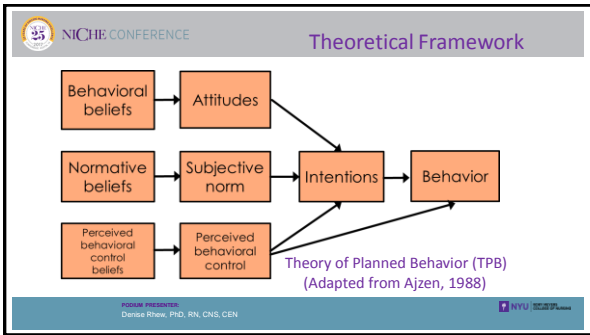
Literature Review/Background

- ❖ Emergency Department (ED) Nurses
- ❖ Older Adults (≥65)
- ❖ Attitudes toward older adult patients
- ❖ Knowledge on facts of older adults
- ❖ Educational offering/Intervention

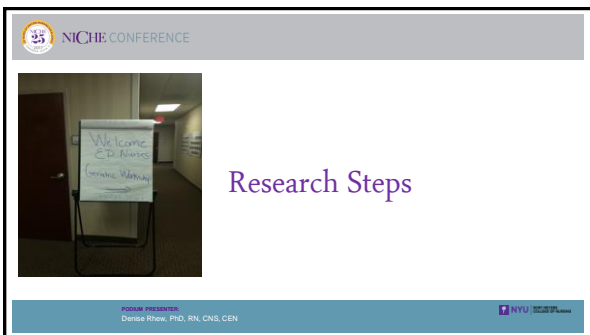



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- 35 NICHE CONFERENCE
- ### Survey Tools/Measurements
- **Online survey (Qualtrics)**
 - Kogan's Attitudes toward Older People Scale (KOP)
 - 17 positive statements (alpha = 0.712)
 - 17 negative statements (alpha = 0.835)
 - Palmore's Facts of Aging Quiz (PFAQ)
 - 25 True/False Questions (KR-20 = 0.327)
 - Behavioral Intention (BI) Questions
 - 5 "I intend" questions at Pre and Immediate post-intervention
 - 5 "I have" questions at 4-week post-intervention
 - Demographics (10 questions)
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 **NICHE CONFERENCE** Research Questions


Research Question 1
What are the attitudes of ED nurses toward older adults?

Research Question 2
What is the knowledge of ED nurses about older adults?

Research Question 3
What is the relationship between ED nurses' knowledge of the facts of aging and their attitudes toward older adults before and after educational intervention?


Research Question 4
Will an educational intervention aid in identifying ED nurses' behavioral intentions to change how they care for older adults?


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 **NICHE CONFERENCE** Methodology

- Two-group quasi-experimental, longitudinal design
 - Pre-test at baseline, Post-test immediately after educational intervention, 4-week follow-up
 - Total sample size of 50 was calculated with 25 per group:
 - Effect size of 0.404 was detected in a repeated measures of ANOVA with 80% power
 - Sample
 - Experimental Group of 44 ED nurses
 - Control Group of 23 ED nurses


ED nurses worked in 1 of 5 Emergency Departments in one health system

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 **NICHE CONFERENCE** Behavioral Intervention Questions

Item	Pre and Immediate Post	4-week Follow-up
BI_10	I intend to voluntarily request to care for an older adult.	I have voluntarily requested to care for an older adult patient within the last 30 days.
BI_16	I intend to purposely focus on providing a safe environment for older adult patients within the next 30 days.	I have purposely focused on providing a safe environment for older adult patients within the last 30 days
BI_21	I intend to perform a falls assessment on my older adult patients with the next 30 days.	I have performed a falls assessment on my older adult patients within the last 30 days
BI_18	I intend to assess my older adult patients' need for nutritional consult in the next 30 days.	I have assessed my older adult patients' need for nutritional consult within the last 30 days.
BI_20	I intend to assess my older adult patients for signs of depression, dementia, and delirium in the next 30 days.	I have assessed my older adult patients for signs of depression, dementia, and delirium within the last 30 days.

Note. BI = Behavioral Intention

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NICHE CONFERENCE Educational Workshop


Geriatric Workshop (4 hours)

Mini Lectures

- Challenges of older adults in the ED,
- Trauma in older adults
- Physiological changes in older adults

Interactive stations (group sizes = 5-6)

- Nutritional assessment of older adults
- Falls assessment on older adults
- Sensory changes in older adults
- Facts on aging
- Non-Pharmological alternatives
- Assessing older adults for 3 D's: dementia, delirium, and depression




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NICHE CONFERENCE Results: Sample Characteristics

- ❖ 67 participants in the study (44 in Intervention, 23 in Control)
- ❖ Mean overall age of 40.0 years (SD = 13.5)
- ❖ 89.6% were Female
- ❖ Average of 11 years worked in ED (SD = 11.6)




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NICHE CONFERENCE Results: Sample Characteristics

- ❖ 92.5% were White, 4.5% Black
- ❖ 56.7% had Bachelor's degree
- ❖ 50.7% graduated before 2005
- ❖ 59.7% had national nursing certification
- ❖ 6.0% had geriatric certification

No statistically significant difference noted between the intervention group and control group on characteristics




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NICHE CONFERENCE Results (Descriptive Statistics for study instruments across time-points)

Tool	Pre-Survey	Immediate Post	Post-Post
Kogan's Positive			
Intervention	77.92 ± 9.12	81.59 ± 10.13	81.89 ± 8.29
Control	79.86 ± 8.33	81.13 ± 10.85	82.10 ± 9.14
Kogan's Negative			
Intervention	44.18 ± 9.92	43.02 ± 11.69	43.18 ± 9.56
Control	45.18 ± 13.22	47.67 ± 12.31	45.10 ± 9.90
Palmore			
Intervention	13.50 ± 2.19	14.85 ± 1.52	14.35 ± 1.79
Control	13.10 ± 2.34	13.53 ± 2.41	13.47 ± 2.30
BI -10			
Intervention	20 (71)	32 (91)	20 (54)
Control	9 (44)	4 (27)	8 (38)
BI -16			
Intervention	26 (93)	35 (100)	36 (97)
Control	21 (95)	14 (93)	19 (90)
BI -21			
Intervention	27 (96)	35 (100)	35 (96)
Control	22 (100)	15 (100)	20 (95)
BI -18			
Intervention	22 (79)	33 (94)	21 (57)
Control	17 (77)	11 (73)	8 (38)
BI -20			
Intervention	26 (96)	35 (100)	33 (89)
Control	21 (95)	14 (93)	19 (90)


*Note: Mean ± Standard Deviation (SD) for Kogan and Palmore scores; Behavioral Intention (BI) N = Yes (%) for each question



NICHE CONFERENCE Program Evaluation

Question	The Geriatric Workshop was worth my time in attending	I would recommend to my co-workers to attend the Geriatric Workshop if offered again	The Geriatric Workshop helped me in assessing/caring for my older adult patients
Mean ± SD	6.41 ± 1.12	6.41 ± 1.17	6.27 ± 1.17


*Program Evaluation
Intervention at 4-Week
Post*



NICHE CONFERENCE Discussion

- 81% of the ED nurses did not have any specialized geriatric training
- Approximately half of the sample graduated before 2005
- Overall, ED nurses' had positive attitudes toward older adults
- Overall, ED nurse's mean knowledge score was lower compared to other healthcare providers

Poster Presenters:
Doreen Brown, PhD, RN, CNS, CEN





Discussion

- 5. The intervention group had a higher percentages of yes vs no implying that the educational intervention did influence their intentions to change behavior
- 6. The education intervention did have a influence on ED nurses' knowledge and positive attitude but showed not to be statistically significant
- 6. The four week follow-up survey did show that the ED nurses' positive attitudes and knowledge scores did remain higher than at pre-intervention



Limitations

- The study was a non-randomized convenience sample, which limits generalizability.
- This study was limited to ED nurses from five EDs within one large health system in a single state, which was also limits generalizability.
- The holiday timeframe may have limited participation in the workshop and surveys.
- The hospital server blocked the emails that provided the link for the participants to complete the survey at all three data point collection.



Limitations

- The control group was working on the day of the pre and immediate post survey. This could have limited their time to complete the surveys and/or they may have gotten interrupted due to patient care needs.
- The process counter in Qualtrics did not allow the questions to open up to random participants in the experimental group in the pre and immediate post surveys.
- ED nurses' motivation in participating in the study could also be a limitation of the research



Recommendations

Hospital administration should provide more resources such as educational classes, equipment such as stretcher alarms, sitters for confused older adults, and a specialized geriatric ED to help ED nurses care for this fastest growing patient population in the ED.




Conclusion

- ✓ The BI measures showed that ED nurses' intentions to perform care behaviors toward the older adult patient were improved after a short four-hour educational intervention. Behavioral changes did occur after attending the Geriatric workshop and also showed that the information learned was retained.
- ✓ The participants did report that the workshop has helped them with assessing and caring for their older adult patients.



Conclusion

- ✓ While no statistically significant differences were found between the means of the experimental group and the control group for both the knowledge scores and attitude scores, the results did show that the experimental group scores did practically improve after attending the workshop for both attitudes and knowledge.




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Questions



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