

Oral Defense Announcement

University of Missouri – St. Louis Graduate School

An oral examination in defense of the dissertation for the degree
Doctor of Nursing Practice

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MS in Nursing, August, 2015, University of Missouri-St. Louis
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A Healthcare Provider Needs Assessment Regarding Transgender Patient Health for a Student Health Services Center

Date: July 6th, 2017

Time: 10:30 am - 12:30 pm.

Place: 107 Nursing Administration Building

Abstract

Objective: This study sought to identify education and training needs of university health service providers regarding transgender patient care. Transgender patients are a vulnerable population who tend to have negative health outcomes. Limited information exists regarding transgender patients and their providers at student university health services nationally.

Methods: The researcher conducted a one hour semi-structured focus group with the professional staff at a Midwestern state university health service. The focus group conversation was guided by a list of prepared questions but other issues were allowed to come forth. Two readers qualitatively analyzed the focus group transcripts for predominant themes.

Participants: The professional staff attending the focus group consisted of two nurse practitioners, two licensed professional counselors, and two counseling psychologists.

Results: Five themes emerged from the focus group data that summarized provider concerns: range of gender identity issues, socio-economic factors, healthcare provider limitations, specialty care needs, and gender inclusive data collection issues.

Conclusions: Specific provider needs derived from the themes included: advanced educational workshops on care of transgender individuals; elaborated gender identity data collection; reliable referrals for sensitive patient situations; and increasing collaboration between counseling and other health services with outreach and additional training opportunities. Culturally sensitive care will likely improve health outcomes for transgender patients.

Defense of Dissertation Committee

Rick Yakimo, PhD, APRN, PMHNP-BC - Chairperson

Nancy Magnuson, DSN, FNP - Clinical Mentor and Committee Member

Zoe Peterson, PhD - Committee Member