

Enhancing Healthcare Access for Remote Indigenous Communities through Community Health Nursing

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Background and Objective

In remote indigenous communities, healthcare access is often hindered by inadequate transportation and limited resources. To address this issue, we initiated a project focused on community health nursing to provide comprehensive healthcare services. Our objective, based on data collected from 100 residents, was to enhance their awareness of medical knowledge to improve overall health outcomes.

Methods/Intervention

To achieve our objectives, we conducted initial data collection to understand residents' health conditions and needs. Subsequently, we implemented health education activities such as lectures, medical knowledge dissemination, and lifestyle guidance. Additionally, we established a community health nursing team comprising professionals who regularly visited residents to provide basic health checks and consultations.

Relevance to Health Promoting Hospitals and Health Services

This project aligns with the objectives of the International Network of Health Promoting Hospitals and Health Services (HPH) by promoting health knowledge and utilization in indigenous

communities. The community health nursing model reflects HPH's emphasis on person-centered and holistic care values. Its local success provides insights for optimizing global healthcare service models, underscoring its broader applicability.

Results

After implementation, we observed a significant improvement in residents' understanding of medical knowledge. They exhibited increased awareness of preventive healthcare, acquired skills in managing chronic diseases, and demonstrated proactive health-care-seeking behaviors. Furthermore, visits by the community health nursing team facilitated residents' access to medical resources, ensuring timely treatment and support.

Conclusions/Lessons Learned

The community health nursing approach successfully raised healthcare awareness among indigenous residents, resulting in increased healthcare service utilization. Addressing cultural differences and community-specific conditions proved crucial for aligning with residents' needs. Effective communication channels and sustained community involvement were pivotal for project success.