



INTRODUCTION

Low Acceptability of Autism services among TO Nation

Lack of community acceptance based on messaging currently used to promote behavioral health services

Messaging is too westernized - not related to the cultural values, beliefs, and Indigenous science views.

Goforth's Social Science Research - messaging can influence decision making

Johns Hopkins - model associated with cultural adaptation

Hopkins and Goforth did not evaluate the efficiency of the intervention

OBJECTIVES

- Culturally adapt a behavioral health informational flyer on autism (scientifically based in western medicine and philosophies) to a storytelling pamphlet (connecting cultural values, beliefs, and Indigenous science tied to tribal communities) that resonates with indigenous communities
- Identify indigenous artists, elders, medicine people, and community educators to serve as content matter experts related to the creation and adaptation of the informational behavioral health flyer
- Conduct a focus group that evaluates the acceptability of behavioral health interventions when presented with westernized flyers and storytelling pamphlets using the Treatment Acceptability Rating Form (TARF-R) Short Form
- Analyze the data using qualitative and quantitative data to determine if the storytelling modality is more culturally relevant, therefore, increasing acceptability within the TO population
- Create a cultural adaptation model and evaluate the efficiency of the intervention.

MATERIALS

METHODS

PICO Research Question: Is storytelling more effective than using westernized materials in increasing the acceptability of behavioral health services for individuals with autism in the Tohono O'odham (TO) Nation?

P: TO residents impacted by autism (Demographic/population variable)

I: Storytelling Informational Flyer (Independent Variable)

C: Westernized Information Flyer Comparison Intervention (Independent Variable)

O: Evaluate the acceptability of behavioral health services for TO autism populations using the TARF rating form (Dependent Variable)

Intervention: A culturally adapted information pamphlet that mirrors a storytelling modality will be presented to the focus group. The pamphlet will be promoting behavioral health services for individuals with autism. After the group reviews the adapted pamphlet, the focus group facilitator will distribute the TARF-R that will measure the level of acceptability using Likert scales from a 1 (not at all acceptable) to a 7 (very acceptable). The focus group facilitator will collect qualitative anecdotal data and quantitative data from the group.

Comparison: The original informational flyer will be presented to the TO focus groups and the facilitator will collect the same data that was collected when presented with the intervention modality listed above.

Outcome: The goal is to increase the acceptability of behavioral health services for TO autism populations using the culturally adapted informational pamphlet.

RESULTS

- Collaborated with TO Population to identify acceptable language associated with the creation of an Indigenous Framework pamphlet to serve as a sample document to establish cultural relevance.
- Created a pamphlet that has acceptability among the small sample of TO individuals that shared their views and experiences.

CONCLUSION

- The created Indigenous Framework pamphlet appears to be acceptable among the small sample of TO individuals interviewed.
- The cultural adaptation of Westernized materials is relevant to the TO population and requires ongoing research to determine if a cultural adaptation model can be formalized and duplicated.

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