

HSC Innovative Teaching/Leaning Experience Description
Barriers to Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Screening

Date: February 2018

	Description
Title/Topic	Barriers to Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Screening
Activity	<i>Agency Project: STI Survey and Health Teaching to county health department PHNs</i> Because chlamydia had been increasing in the county and 80% of women are symptomatic, it is evident that the incidence is highly underestimated. The disease prevention and control division of the county agency asked students to survey a population of acquaintances about their desire and or willingness to be screened for STI to identify consumer roadblocks to being tested. The students designed a survey to discover the motivation and barriers to STI testing. Students distributed the survey through 3 different university Facebook groups of ethnically diverse university students, singling out specific year graduation classes. They collected survey results during one week, Spring 2017. Persons filling out the survey submitted them anonymously without any identifiers. The students also designed a 60-minute interactive presentation reporting their work to the agency staff. The presentation included the survey purpose, design, results, recommendations, and dialogue with staff throughout the hour.
Collaboration	Public Health Agency and student innovation, creativity and access to social media avenues for at risk populations
Outcomes	Agency Project and Learning Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify appropriate questions to ask individuals regarding STD/STI testing barriers that are appropriate for the population. • Identify the population to sample for the survey. • Determine the medium in which to distribute the survey. • Interpret the results of the survey.
HSC competencies	2-4, 6, 8, 9, 11
PH Wheel Interventions	Surveillance, Health Event Investigation, Screening, Case Finding, Collaboration, Community Organizing, and Social Marketing
Evaluation	249 persons responded within 7 days: 72% Caucasian, 25% Asian, remainder included Hispanic, American Indian, and persons of African or African American descent. The results were informative to the professionals working with these barriers. Students were able to identify the incentives for persons to be tested, those who have not requested testing, and recommendations to address the roadblocks the survey revealed. Student evaluation of presentation: "The response from the department was very positive. They were engaged in the presentation, and asked many questions along the way, including our personal experiences and perspectives about the topic. Many members of the department verbally stated that the presentation was very informative and helpful."
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