Evaluation of Medication Therapy Management Education and Experiential Targeting Medicare Beneficiaries

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ABSTRACT

Objective: To evaluate the effects of implementing medication therapy management (MTM) training into an elective course as it relates to students' self-perceived confidence, quiz scores (didactic setting) and efforts in providing MTM interventions (experimental setting).

Methods: Students enrolled in a two-semester Medicare Part D elective course, which contained both didactic and experiential components, were included in this study. Students were provided with faculty-developed MTM learning modules and completed the American Pharmaceutical Association (APhA) MTM certificate program. Thirteen mobile clinics were held during the 2014 Medicare Open Enrollment period. Students at each clinic site helped beneficiaries select optimal Medicare Part D prescription drug plans and provided MTM services. Data were collected on the number and types of drug-related problems (DRPs) identified during each MTM intervention. Students completed a survey assessing their knowledge and confidence at multiple points during the class. Week-by-week quiz scores were also taken by students.

Results: Forty-five students completed the study sample. In total, 555 patients were provided MTM interventions, and 716 DRPs were identified. Students' self-reported confidence increased by an average of 8.7% from Time B to Time C.

Implications: The incorporation of MTM training, and the application of knowledge through MTM services in the didactic setting, significantly increased student knowledge and confidence with MTM. As a result, such training enabled students to identify several DRPs in the experiential setting.

RESULTS

- Students' self-reported confidence in drug knowledge (Figure 2): Increased by an average of 27.1% from Time A to Time B.
- Increased by an average of 3.7% from Time B to Time C.

Student's self-reported confidence in delivering MTM services (Figure 3):
- Increased by 152% from Time A to Time B.
- Increased by 13% from Time B to Time C.

There was a statistically significant correlation (Correlation coefficient: 0.714; p<0.01) between the # of questions correctly answered on drug quizzes after MTM training and the total # of MTM issues identified by students during outreach clinics.

DISCUSSION

- Implementation of MTM education and the APhA certification training improved student confidence with drug knowledge and in the provision of MTM services.
- Although there were numerous challenges such as limited training and faculty involvement that may have helped increase student drug knowledge and MTM performance, other factors may also be responsible including student GPA, sources of self-efficacy, work experience and previous experience with the geriatric population.

CONCLUSIONS

- Implementation of the APhA MTM certification program, Delivering Medication Therapy Management Services, into the Medicare Part D elective increased student confidence in their MTM knowledge and confidence. As a result, such training enabled students to identify several DRPs in the experiential setting.

REFERENCES