Background & Purpose

Complex healthcare issues such as the current opioid crisis (OC) need a multifaceted public health approach to effectively reduce opioid-related morbidity and mortality. One facet is effective interprofessional (IP) education, which begins with IP education (IPE). In tandem, health profession students are expected to learn about, from, and with each other through IP initiatives. These initiatives support the building of effective communication skills. An IPE event at a mid-sized university of health professional education was designed to facilitate a dialogue around opioid misuse and abuse. The goal was to raise awareness about the OC and to highlight the power of IP collaboration by building on IP relationships. This IPE event was a result of a pilot initiative from the prior year. The purpose of this IRB-approved mixed-method, cohort design study was to identify changes in student valuing of an IP experience and to explore qualitative data analysis of the IP experience. An interprofessional event (IPE) at a midsized university of health profession education was designed to facilitate a dialogue around opioid misuse and abuse. The goal was to raise awareness about the OC and to highlight the power of IP collaboration by building on IP relationships. This IPE event was a result of a pilot initiative from the prior year. The purpose of this IRB-approved mixed-method, cohort design study was to identify changes in student valuing of an IP experience and to explore qualitative data analysis of the IPE experience.

Methods

- An expert panel consisted of faculty from counseling, nursing, occupational therapy, pharmacy, and physical therapy within RHCHP; a PA and the Director of the Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention. A pharmacist, an opioid abuse survivor, began the IE discussion followed by vignettes from each panel member on how their profession plays a role in combatting the OC.
- The graduate students then participated in small group roundtable discussions (SGD) to promote IP communication. Feedback was used to organize the third annual event.
- The approach was highly satisfying to the participants. Feedback was used to organize the third annual event.
- The IPE experience improved IP value in graduate level healthcare students.
- Reflection of the epidemic was a crucial first step for students in order to generate additional conversations and insights. Within the framework of the opioid epidemic, self-reflection was a crucial first step for students in order to generate additional conversations and insights.

Results

- For this event, there were 70 participants. Of those, 38 participants (3 OT, 3 Pharm, 26 PT students) and 6 faculty completed the assessment in its entirety. Only student data from the ISVS and roundtable discussions were used in the analyses.
- A statistically significant improvement was found for the entire audience, form 9A compared to form 9B (Figure 1, p < .001). Statistically significant differences were found in 7 out of 9 questions in ISVS equivalent forms (Table 1).
- Within the framework of the opioid epidemic, self-reflection was a crucial first step for students in order to generate additional conversations and insights. The goal was to raise awareness about the OC and to highlight the power of IP collaboration by building on IP relationships. This IPE event was a result of a pilot initiative from the prior year. The purpose of this IRB-approved mixed-method, cohort design study was to identify changes in student valuing of an IP experience and to explore qualitative data analysis of the IPE experience.

Conclusions

- This IPE experience improved IP value in graduate level healthcare students.
- Reflection of the epidemic was a crucial first step for students in order to generate additional conversations and insights. Within the framework of the opioid epidemic, self-reflection was a crucial first step for students in order to generate additional conversations and insights.

References