

Developing Genomics Literacy in Nursing Practice Across Maryland

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Background

- Genetics and genomics is revolutionizing healthcare
- Evidence indicates today's nursing workforce lacks resources, knowledge and skills in this field
- Must prepare nursing students at the prelicensure and graduate level to deliver genomic care
- Challenged by a lack of nursing school faculty trained in genetics and genomics AND dearth of robust continuing education in this area

Objectives

- Engage practicing nurses in community of learning in genetics and genomics
- Provide opportunities for nurses to learn about genetics and genomics
- Increase nurses and nursing student knowledge, skills and competencies in genetics and genomics

Development

- Nurse Support II Program, funded by the Maryland Higher Education Commission 1-year planning grant awarded
- Developed academic-practice partnership with the Johns Hopkins McKusick-Nathans Department of Genetic Medicine
 - Intrinsically interprofessional
- Invited nurses, faculty and nursing students to participate in the Genetics and Genomics Community of Practice (CoP)

Methods

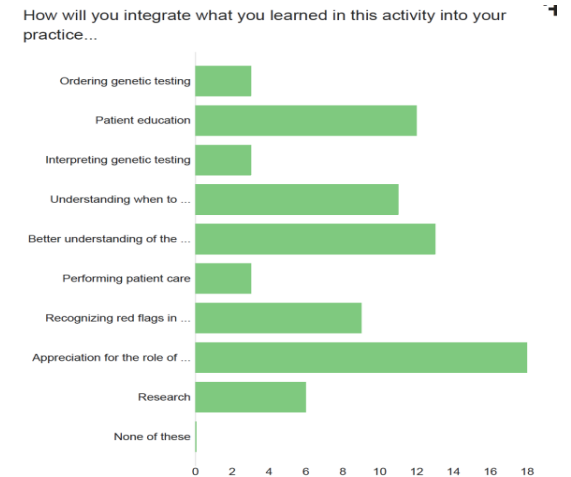
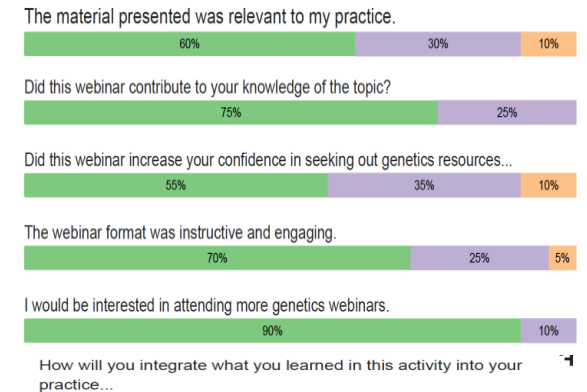
- Plan a Nursing Genetics and Genomics Community of Practice (CoP)
 - Invited faculty participants from all schools of Nursing in Maryland via Deans and Directors List Serve
 - Invited nursing genetics experts and enthusiasts from Johns Hopkins Health System and National Institutes of Health
 - Invited non-nurses including medical geneticists, genetic counselors and pharmacists to participate
- Plan continuing education opportunities for nurses to learn about genetics and genomics
 - Assessed literature and web resources to identify genetics and genomics education opportunities
 - Developed "Conversations in Genetics Webinar Series"

Results

- Genetics and Genomics CoP "stats"
 - Launched in September 2020
 - Participants from 11 Schools of Nursing in Maryland
 - 58 current members, including practicing nurses, nursing school faculty, and nursing students at all levels
- Current CoP projects :
 - Development of genetics and genomics curated resource list
 - Development of genetics and genomics education modules on Cystic Fibrosis and Sickle Cell Disease for use in Schools of Nursing
 - Genetics and genomics educational resources website
- "Conversations in Genetics" Webinar Series
 - Extensive participation from CoP members and healthcare community
 - Webinar participants' background shows a diverse group consisting of nursing students, faculty at all levels, practicing and retired nurses

Topic	Attendees	Month 2020-2021
Genetics and Genomics	43	October
What We Say Matters	46	November
Engaging Nurses in Genetics - the Future is Here	48	December
Genetics and the Newborn Screen	73	January
Pharmacology	75	February
Using Genetics in Clinical Cardiology Practice	46	March
Demystifying Genetic Testing	24	April

Figures



Conclusions

- Nurses in Maryland are eager to learn more about the field of genetics and genomics and its application to clinical practice
- Community of Practice is an effective method to engage nurses on this topic
- Continuing education opportunities are desired by nurses in this area