Overview of Community-based Health Literacy Interventions Review

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Questions that Shaped the Review

• What does it mean to take “community” seriously – that is, more than location – in a health intervention?
• What distinguishes a health literacy from an educational intervention?
• What is or could be the “value added” element of doing a health literacy intervention with a community?
Example: Intervention with Large Effect Sizes

Hernandez & Organista 2013, Entertainment-education? A fotonovela? A new strategy to improve depression literacy and help-seeking behaviors in at-risk immigrant Latinas; Secret Feelings created by Dr. Leopoldo Cabassa, Columbia School of Social Work
Review Findings and Conclusions

• Wide range of interventions
• Mix of qualitative & quantitative evidence
• “Health literacy” and “community” often not well-explained in papers
• “Health literacy” appears 4 ways
  • Identify community
  • Measure something in intervention
  • Inform intervention content
  • Define outcome
• Scientific rigor can and should improve
Community: Elusive Concept

- Community
  - Setting
  - Target
  - Resource
  - Agent
    - McLeroy et al 2003

- Frequent uses of *community* in papers
  - Setting: community hospitals, clinics
  - Target: recruit in/from “the community,” community participants
How We Did the Review

• Scoping review
  • Addresses a broad topic
  • Allows for different study designs
  • Maps key concepts, main sources, & types of evidence

• Literature search

• Evaluation framework

• Multiple rounds of paper review
  • Title & abstract
  • Full text

• Modified CDC “Best Practices” framework

• Reporting categories and synthesis
How We Found the Papers

• Professional librarian constructed & executed search strategy
  • 14 commercial library databases
  • Web-based “grey” literature search
  • “Health literacy” & “community” key terms

• Inclusion & exclusion criteria
# Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inclusion</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Published in English</td>
<td>1. Conceptual models</td>
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<td>2. Published between June 2010-2017</td>
<td>2. Associations between health literacy and another concept or variable</td>
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<td>3. Peer reviewed articles (exceptions are theses, dissertations, web pages, posters, and professional/trade publications when enough information was included)</td>
<td>3. Intervention development or protocols</td>
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<td>4. Used a community sample</td>
<td>4. Formative research</td>
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<td>5. “Health literacy” and “community” common terms</td>
<td>5. Interventions focused on healthcare professionals or individuals (not groups)</td>
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<td>6. Questionnaire or other instrument development</td>
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<td>7. “Health literacy” and “community” absent in abstract</td>
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<td>8. Health knowledge or skills without a health literacy connection</td>
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<td>9. Community locations or settings, such as health center, used only for recruitment</td>
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<td>10. Review articles, but reference lists were searched for articles meeting inclusion criteria</td>
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Evaluation Framework

• Adapted CDC “Best Practices” Framework for Planning and Improving Evidence-based Practices (2013)

• 5 categories
  • Effectiveness
  • Reach
  • Feasibility
  • Sustainability
  • Transferability
Results

- Initial search: 2402 non-duplicate records
  - 14 commercial library databases
  - Web-based “grey” literature search
  - “Health literacy” & “community” key terms
- After criteria & full text review: 74 papers
- Wide range of reported outcomes
- 2 papers with reported large magnitude of effects
  - Knowledge & self-efficacy for depression
  - Cancer screening education session
Categories Used to Organize Results

- Health literacy skill and capacity building
- Information-seeking
- Culturally sensitive
- Adult learners
- Early childhood
- Schools
- Other

- Chronic disease
- Mental health
- Medicines
- Cancer
- Environmental health
- Policy/system
Reported Outcomes

- Satisfaction
- Knowledge
- Understanding
- Awareness
- Self-efficacy
- Intentions
- Attitudes/beliefs
- Self-management tasks
- Goals
- Health behaviors
- Decision-making
- Information-seeking
- Health services use
- Physical changes
- Health literacy (general)
Discussion Topics in Our Report

- Community engagement
- Health literacy intervention component
- Knowledge outcomes
- Evaluation framework
Opening Questions Need More Discussion

- What does it mean to take “community” seriously – that is, more than location – in a health intervention?
- What distinguishes a health literacy from an educational intervention?
- What is or could be the “value added” element of doing a health literacy intervention with a community?