CONVERSATIONS ON CULTURE: CONTEXT, RELEVANCE AND RESPECTFUL APPROACHES

Authors

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Kate Dunn brings a background in nursing, public health and social sciences to her role in the School of Nursing at York University, Ontario, Canada, and is passionate about relational research engaging in wellness-based approaches to liver health and hepatitis C.

Emmett Lockwood brings a background in Critical Disability Studies, health policy, and the social sciences to his role as a Graduate Research Assistant under the supervision of Dr. Kate Dunn at in the Faculty of Health at York University, Ontario, Canada. Lockwood is passionate about relational research engaging in Indigenized wellness-based approaches to liver health and hepatitis C.

Rachel Montour is a Mohawk woman from Six Nations of the Grand River and a third-year student in the BAOL (Cayuga) program at Six Nations Polytechnic. She is a community outreach worker and research trainee with Dr. Kate Dunn, bringing lived experience and community-based perspectives to Indigenous health research.

Keywords

Community engagement, Indigenous health, harm reduction, HCV, lived and living experience, primary care,

Background and aims

Current interconnected structures, systems of power, and bias originating in colonization continue to impact experiences in healthcare for everyone, and especially for Indigenous People in many places and spaces around the world. In the context of global hepatitis elimination, the incidence disparity for Indigenous populations often becomes a focus, yet this focus often leaves behind consideration of colonial contexts as a barrier to receiving care and disregards the facilitating roles culture, language and community can play in the care experience. The aim of this workshop is to create space for conversational discussion on colonial context, reflections around bias, and practical insights for inclusion of culture in care.

Description of workshop

Facilitators bring varied personal experience and diversity from an Indigenous worldview that includes lived experience with hepatitis C, substance use, nursing care, political advocacy, knowledge mobilization and community engagement. Creating a brave space for conversation, reflection, knowledge exchange, and learning together the facilitators will share personal experience vignettes, create space for reflection, facilitate case study discussion, and conclude with inspirational examples of respectful advocacy and engagement.

Methods and format

This workshop will bring culturally grounded forms of knowledge exchange into the conference space through traditional methods of introduction stories, humour, interactive arts, real-life examples of positive impact through cultural approaches, and discussion in sharing circles. This workshop will also

include a question segment for common misunderstandings around culture, and wrap up with practical insights for cultural inclusion in hepatitis C care and approaches.

Ideal number and type of attendees, how many could accommodate, who is this designed for?

20-60 people, open to all attendees as this discussion is relevant to global health conversations with health researchers, clinical care and lived/living experience.

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