

ENGAGING UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS: A NURSING EDUCATION APPROACH

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Definition of Underserved Populations

- A group of people who, for a variety of reasons, do not have equal access to health and health care services.

- <http://www.endowmentforhealth.org/grant-center/glossary.aspx>

Being Hispanic



- 21 Spanish speaking countries in the world
- A culture within a culture
- Dialects, traditions, cultures are diverse
- As a collective group, these nations represent the unique diversity of Hispanics

What makes Hispanics Unique?

- Language
- Culture
- Role of the family
- Illness
- Spirituality
- Homeopathic approaches to healthcare practices



Barriers to healthcare: underserved population

- Trust
- Willingness
- Fear
- Illegal status
- Feelings/misconceptions
- Lack of clarity
- Hierarchy (machismo)
- Illiteracy
- Socioeconomic status

Hispanic Discrimination

- Language
- Skin color
- Level of education
- Country to country
- Illiteracy



How can the RN meet the needs of the underserved?

- **The Role of the Registered Nurse (RN)**
 - Understanding cultural diversity
 - Cultural awareness
 - Being culturally competent
- Nursing education (undergraduate and graduate levels)
- Advanced Practice Nurses (Modernization Act)

Preparing Competent Global Nurses

- Global experiences: Costa Rica
- Capturing the young diverse mind: High School programs geared to attract the best and brightest minority student
- Tap into the diversity: gender, sexual orientation, minorities
- Encourage higher learning: terminal degrees (PhD, DNP)

WHY????

- Nurses are.....
 - In a unique place professionally
 - Have the education to address the issues of the underserved populations
 - Is a diverse profession
 - Role of the advanced practice nurse/Affordable Care Act



RN's as change agents

- Mentoring
- Transitioning
- Experiential learning
- Collaboration
- Increase work force
- Awareness



Positive Outcomes

- An increase in diverse nurses
- Easier access to HCP that understand the humanness of being a minority
- Emergence of minority nursing leaders that act as the change agents needed



Preguntas?

