

WAWLC abstract submission

Theme -Training & Education

Aiding clinical educators to develop simple effective stimulating education programs for the Solomon Islands

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Background to the problem:

Most nurse educators at the Honiara Referral Hospital were in their current roles not because they were necessarily good at their craft but rather they were the oldest members of the nursing staff and it was seen as a natural progression to this position-almost a reward to an office after years of service. They had actually never received formal education on how to educate or develop educational training programs. Much of the training was straight from text books from developed countries. Teaching procedure and practices that were not or seldom relevant to their current workloads.

Aim:

After working as a volunteer in the Solomon Islands for the past 6 years our nurse volunteers decided to return to basics and train the current nurse educators how to develop weekly stimulating education packages for the clinical care staff in the various wards within HRH.

Methods:

Planning was made with the hospital administrators to run a dual training program at HRH -the morning would be packages as requested for ward/clinical staff. After lunch the volunteer educators would find a suitable area where the nurse educators would sit at their computers and the volunteer nurses would guide them through designing simple but stimulating training programs covering all systems of the body and the most common problems encountered in HRH.

Results:

A 48 week training program was established. The idea was that each week one of the laminated questionnaires was attached in each clinical area of the hospital and clinical staff would move around the hospital asking staff the answers to the questions. Staff could also if they had resources submit the answer on paper to the clinical nurse educators office for marking.

At the end of each month the person with the most correct answers would receive an award(certficate) and a small prize donated from local suppliers. At the end of the year the person with the highest points recieved a hospital award presented by the Minister of Health or senior hospital staff, at a significant hospital event.

Conclusions:

The nurse educators of HRH became excited that they could train in another more stimulating context than just in a classroom. They became enthused with ideas and were thrilled that they could add creativity to their education. The final results are the program have not yet been evaluated --climate disasters and staff shortages have impacted on data collection. What has been reported however is that the level of interest in learning directly in the clinical setting has seen the educators leave their office and show a presence at the clinical level.