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2016 SRNT Call for Oral and Poster Abstracts

Submission Title: PROVIDER PERSPECTIVES ON INTERNATIONAL TRAINING IN TOBACCO TREATMENT: ACCESS, QUALITY, AND PERSPECTIVES ON POLICY

Reference ID: 0685-000769

Abstract

Your submission is not to exceed 2,200 characters, including spaces.

All abstracts must be prepared in plain text, in English, with no embedded symbols or formatting characters, including "Smart Formatting" as used by some word processing programs. Electronic submission may not include charts, graphs, tables, or reference.

Topic* Policy: Global Health

Study Type* Study Type: Cross-sectional survey

Keyword Index 1* Global health

Keyword Index 2* Treatment and intervention

Format Type* Paper or Poster (Indifferent)

Abstract Title*

PROVIDER PERSPECTIVES ON INTERNATIONAL TRAINING IN TOBACCO TREATMENT: ACCESS, QUALITY, AND PERSPECTIVES ON POLICY

Abstract Body*

Few training programs exist outside of the U.S. and a few other advanced-economy nations. Little data exists on the training experiences and/or needs of providers in middle/lower-income countries. Training programs tend to follow advanced economy country guidelines, which may fail to address other countries' tobacco use patterns and resources. The ATTUD-ITC conducted an internet-based survey of providers outside of the U.S. to better understand access to training, quality of training, and ways to tailor training to respondents' country conditions.

The study was conducted in a convenience/snowball sample recruited via listserves (ATTUD; ENSH Global; Global Bridges) and word-of-mouth. Items were adapted from existing surveys and included closed- and open-ended questions. The survey was created in English, translated into Spanish and Portuguese, and disseminated via urls embedded in email messages. All study technology was open source, including Enketo Smart Paper for the form, formhub for data collection, and R for quantitative analysis.

The 168 respondents represented 46 countries. They included physicians (40%) nurses (15%) psychologists (13%) community health workers (7%) and others (25%). Respondents learned how to treat dependence via online courses (73%), training in their health profession (65%) and other information on the web (52%). About half (53%) estimated they had received less than 6 hours of instruction. Nearly half (41%) reported their access to training to be poor to nonexistent. Most (54%) reported their countries had national guidelines for tobacco treatment. Barriers to providing care included the cost/coverage of medications and counseling; and lack of evidence in how to best treat light smokers/smokeless/shisha users. Recommendations for country guidelines included expediting revision to keep up with evidence; encouraging governments to mandate implementation; and disseminating them better.

English online courses are the main training mode for international providers. Recommendations offered by respondents should be considered by lower-income countries and external entities seeking to support the diffusion of evidence-based tobacco treatment.

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Religious Conflict*

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