Acculturation with Hispanics & Latinos

Webinar
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Issues to consider

- Population of Hispanics and Latinos growing significantly
- Acculturation is a factor in Hispanic and Latino substance use and abuse
- Language is an important factor
- Immigration is crucial
- Assimilation is related to acculturation
- Cultural competence is necessary

Hispanic and Latino Populations

52.2 million
Hispanic and Latinos

16.7% of the total
US population

Source: US Census Bureau, 2010
**Hispanic and Latino Origin by Type: 2000 vs. 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Origin</th>
<th>Number 2000</th>
<th>Percent 2000</th>
<th>Number 2010</th>
<th>Percent 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>35,305,818</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>50,477,594</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexican</td>
<td>20,640,711</td>
<td>58.5</td>
<td>31,798,258</td>
<td>63.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Puerto Rican</td>
<td>3,406,178</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>4,623,716</td>
<td>9.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuban</td>
<td>1,241,685</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>1,785,547</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominican</td>
<td>764,945</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>1,414,703</td>
<td>2.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central American</td>
<td>1,686,937</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>3,998,280</td>
<td>7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South American</td>
<td>1,353,562</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>2,769,434</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, The Hispanic Population, 2010, Census Briefs

**Hispanics: 1970 to 2050**

Population in millions

**Cultural Competence**

Includes being able to recognize and respond to health-related beliefs and cultural values, disease incidence and prevalence, and treatment efficacy.

Source: OMH, 2001
Culture plays a key role in our ability to influence behavior in a patient. However, we cannot afford to let cultural barriers limit our ability to meet the needs of our patients, or reduce their opportunity to benefit from the services we can provide.

**Principles for Culturally Competent Treatment Services for Hispanic and Latino Populations**

**Assimilation**

Changes in language preference, adoption of common attitudes and values, membership in common social groups and institutions, and loss of separate political or ethnic identification of one group as they come in contact with their host society.

Source: Alba & Nee, 1997

**Definition**

Acculturation
1: cultural modification of an individual, group, or people by adapting to or borrowing traits from another culture; also: a merging of cultures as a result of prolonged contact

2: the process by which a human being acquires the culture of a particular society from infancy

Source: Miriam Webster Online Dictionary
Acculturation

• The process in which members of one cultural group adopt the beliefs and behaviors of another group.

• Acculturation can be reciprocal- that is, the dominant group also adopts patterns typical of the minority group.

Acculturation is mostly concerned with the individual and how they relate to their own group as a subgroup of the larger society.

Source: Hazuda, Stern & Haffner, 1988

Acculturation and Family

May include changes in parenting practices
Why do we want to know how about acculturation and how is this related to those we serve?

- Ongoing learning
- Improved skills
- Increased effectiveness
- Improved outcomes

Acculturation Scales

- Aim is to capture the acculturation process appropriately
- Typological and dimensional models
- Unidimensional and bidimensional models

Language

- Spanish speaking or highly bilingual clients can be assumed to possess more knowledge about Hispanic and Latino culture and this may provide some cultural information for more accurate interpretation of information.
- Never assume that a patient that speaks some Spanish is knowledgeable about Hispanic and Latino culture.
Language

Language is considered one of the most important components of ethnic identity and has been commonly and widely assessed across acculturation instruments.

Given the importance of language, it is not surprising that a number of the scales allocate considerable portions of questions to language behavior and proficiency questions.

Source: Laroche, Kim, Hai & Tinku, 1998; Noels, Pons & Clement, 1999; Piliary, 1999; Zone & Mol, 2003

Immigration Statistics

• **52 million** Hispanics living in the U.S. in 2011:
  - **18,788,300** were foreign born
  - an estimated **11.1 million** were undocumented residents

Source: Pew Research Hispanic Center, 2013

Immigration Issues

• Trust
• Discrimination
• Service seeking behaviors
• Beliefs around health care and addictions
Immigration Paradox

Nativity-based disparities

Implications for service providers

Knowledge of:
- Own racial and cultural heritage
- Client’s culture (history, values, traditions, artistic expressions)
- Roles of Language, speech patterns, communication styles in different communities
- Resources available for clients
- Impact of court involvement on behavior, attitudes and values
- How professional values either conflict with or accommodate needs of clients

Skills to:
- Seek out educational, consultative and training experiences to increase effectiveness
- Engage client in a variety of verbal and non-verbal interactions which are appropriate and meaningful
- Utilize concepts of empowerment on behalf of client

SKILLS
Attributes which:

• Reflect genuineness, empathy, and warmth as well as the ability to be flexible and open to range of possible solutions

• Respect indigenous helping practices and help-giving networks

Value bilingual / multilingualism

Respect for clients religious and/or spiritual beliefs and values, including attributions and taboos, because they affect worldview, psychosocial functioning, and expressions of distress

References


Grover G. Huebner. The Improvement of Labor Conditions in the United States (May, 1906), pp. 191-213


References


References
QUESTIONS