Building Providers’ Capacity to Provide Culturally Appropriate Care Web Series


Zina M. Age, LMSW, MAC
CEO and Founder
Aniz, Incorporated

Carlos A. O. Pavao, MPA, DrPH(c)
Research and Evaluation
Aniz, Incorporated
Mission

- Aniz, Inc. promotes emotional and physical wellness by providing mental health and substance abuse counseling, support services, and sexual health education.

- We do this work with the overarching objective of reducing risk behaviors in individuals and families affected by sexual health disparities including HIV/AIDS.

Programs

- LGBT T.R.U.S.T
- We Want to Know
- Holistic Harm Reduction
- Grandparents Hands
- Community-Based Research
- AFLASH
1. Describe how to provide culturally competent health services to African, African-American, and Caribbean women using a holistic harm reduction approach.

2. Identify resources for providing culturally competent care to African, African-American, and Caribbean women.

3. Describe effective communication strategies for providing culturally competent services to African, African-American, and Caribbean women.
Holistic Harm Reduction

- The desired outcome is to assist the individual in regaining health and wholeness by reducing or eliminating harm.
- A contemporary approach that aims to reduce the negative consequences of physical, economic, psychological, social, legal, and political conditions by utilizing a full spectrum of strategies.
- Holistic harm reduction works with the individual to develop practical and effective strategies that address issues impacting their overall quality of life.

Denning and Little, 2012
Culturally Competent Care

- Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
- Risk Factors
- Educational Level
- Faith-based, Cultural, and Political Beliefs
- Socioeconomic Status
- Mental and Emotional Health
- Safety Concerns
- Housing Status

Purnell, 2013
Culturally Competent Care (cont’d)

- As an agency providing culturally competent care it is important to know:
  - The impact of secrecy, shame, stigma, and guilt on a patient’s physical, spiritual, and mental health.
  - How country of origin, cultural nuances, and social networks can impact a patient.
  - How to conduct 360° assessment – taking a picture of behaviors, social networks, country of origin, support networks, etc.
  - How to create an environment welcoming to women of color.
Culturally Competent Care (cont’d)

- As an providers delivering culturally competent care it is important to know:
  - How your patient is responding to the impacts of structural forces – racism, sexism, assimilation, acculturation, etc.
  - About the cultures, country of origin, and systems of beliefs of your patient.
  - Not all African, African-American, and Caribbean women are the same.
  - How to be sex positive and encourage women to enjoy their sexuality.
Spirituality and African, African-American, and Caribbean Women

How to Provide Culturally Competent Care to African-American Women Over 50

- Important issues to consider:
  - Worried well – “Why I am still here and my friends are all gone?”
  - Disclosure issues:
    - Why should I tell if I’ve stopped having sex?
    - I am too old and embarrassed to tell.
    - People will think I am a “slut or whore”.
    - Do I need to tell my grown children and grandchildren?
  - “My generation only used condoms to prevent pregnancy and pregnancy isn’t a concern for me”.
  - “I am never having sex again…”
    - Sex drives and matured/older women.

Scott, 2005
How to Provide Culturally Competent Care to African-American with Young Children

- Important issues to consider:
  - Disclosure
    - How do I tell my children?
    - Do I need to tell my children?
    - What happens if I tell?
  - Programs/interventions for families, children, and parents
    - Support groups
    - Skills-building groups (disclosure, medication adherence, etc.)
    - Supportive services
  - “I’m a bad mother…”

Aziz and Smith, 2011
How to Provide Culturally Competent Care to Caribbean Women

- Important issues to consider:
  - “Constructivist lens”
  - Caribbean Basin & history of internal migrations
  - Control of their destiny
  - Self medicate & exhaust all possible medical treatments
  - Illness is often believed to be a result of wrongdoing
  - Being in harmony with friends and relatives
  - Stigma
  - Acculturation vs. assimilation vs. the “other”
  - Migration patterns to the US

Lincoln, 1985
How to Provide Culturally Competent Care to African Women

Important issues to consider:

- Awareness of “reflexive screens” (Patton, 2008)
- Nation formation & history of internal migrations
- Control of their destiny – decolonialization process
- Self medicate & exhaust all possible medical treatments
- Illness is often believed to be a result of wrongdoing
- Being in harmony with friends and relatives
- Stigma
- Acculturation vs. assimilation vs. the “other”
- Migration patterns to the US

Patton, 2008
Summary of Various Approaches: Cultural Competence

- Acknowledging different world views:
  - Linear vs. holistic frames
  - Community vs. individual
  - Sovereignty & national identity(ies)
  - Power dynamics and gender roles
  - Issues with lost in translation(s)
  - Etiquette
Ask the Professional?

Contact Information:

Zina Age, LMSW, MAC
President/CEO of Aniz, Inc
ceo@aniz.org
www.aniz.org

The Dots Are Connecting......
References


Runnels, R. C. (2012). Constructing spirit-level interventions for African American women living with HIV.


Evaluation Completion Is Important. . .

. . . and required if you are requesting CME/CEU
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Thank you for joining us today! We look forward to seeing you at the next session!