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Educating and evaluating military graduate nursing students' and military medical students' attitudes and knowledge of LGBT healthcare

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The US Military repealed the "Don't Ask Don't Tell" policy five years ago. In July 2016, the military lifted a ban on transgendered service members, effectively allowing Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgendered (LGBT) service members the right to openly serve. Despite this action, the military has not developed or deployed specific education across the Military Healthcare System regarding healthcare disparities and needs of LGBT service members and their families. The purpose of this research is to know the effectiveness of an interdisciplinary seminar on changing military graduate nursing students' and military medical students' attitudes and knowledge of LGBT individuals and their healthcare needs. A 17-item survey was administered to a sample of 200 students before and after a class on sexual diversity. Findings show improvement on all questions with statistically significant improvement noted for knowledge of LGBT healthcare disparities. More education like this may be warranted.

Biography

Eric Pauli is an active-duty Navy Nurse who completed his MSN in the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Program (PMHNP) at the University of Washington in 2008 and is currently enrolled as a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) student in the Nurse Executive Program at Old Dominion University. He serves as Assistant Professor and Director for Clinical Education in the PMHNP-DNP Program at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. He has published articles in two peer-reviewed journals on using simulation in psychiatric mental health nursing education and meeting the challenges of training for interdisciplinary care.

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