Bringing Together Best Practices From Distance and Continuing Education: The Best Practices for Stroke for Nurses Project

West Greater Toronto Area Stroke Network
Laurentian University School of Nursing
Ontario Telemedicine Network
Spring 2007

Presenters

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Objectives

- **To present the partnership model and project objectives**

- **To describe the project experience**

- **To review findings based on the research framework of the project**

- **To share lessons and recommendations**

Background

- **Ministry of Health and Long-term Care allocates $30 million annually to the Ontario Stroke System**

- **Mandate: to decrease the incidence of stroke and improve patient care and outcomes**

- **System spans the continuum of care: prevention, acute care, rehabilitation, and community re-engagement**

Background

- **Guiding principles**
  comprehensive, integrated, evidence-based and province wide

- **Professional education and public awareness integral to uptake of best practices**
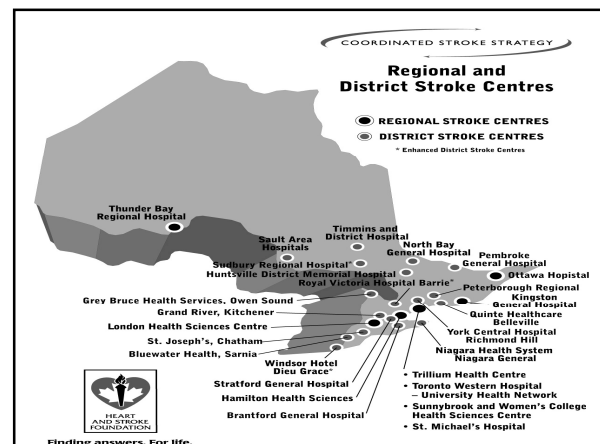
Partner 1: West GTA Stroke Network

- One of 11 stroke regions in the province serving 1.6 million people

- Stakeholders and partners
  - 5 acute care hospitals, 1 tertiary rehabilitation centre, 48 long-term care facilities, community service providers

- Regional Stroke Centre and Secondary Stroke Prevention Clinic located at Trillium Health Centre

West GTA Stroke Region-2

- Regional education funding allocated annually

- Stroke Best Practices for Nurses Workshop developed in 2001

- Delivered biannually in face-to-face setting

Partner 2: Laurentian University School of Nursing

- Rich history in distance, continuing, and technology-enabled education
  - Post-RN and Master's programs, specialty education such as cardiac

- Extensive experience in cardiac and stroke education

Laurentian University School of Nursing-2

- Relationships with hospitals and other health education stakeholders across northern Ontario

- Expertise in research and assessment in technology-enabled learning

Partner 3: Ontario Telemedicine Network

- Provincial telemedicine network

- www.otn.ca

- Highly active educational program through presence in all Ontario hospitals and other health education settings (over 400 multipoint events per month)

Ontario Telemedicine Network-2

- Educational technologies include videoconferencing and webcasting (live and archived)

- LU School of Nursing a member of OTN

More Partners: Northern Ontario Hospitals

- Over 90 nurse-participants from across large and small hospitals

- Support of administration and ethics review boards within involved hospitals

Stroke Best Practices for Nurses Workshop

- Originally developed as a "train the trainer" model

- Team of interdisciplinary expert presenters

- Delivered over three days

Stroke Best Practices for Nurses Workshop-2

- Topics include:
  - neuroanatomy, management of incontinence, stroke prevention, management of the stroke survivor with cognitive and perceptual issues,
  - community reintegration, post-stroke depression

An Idea with Purpose

- To develop, deliver, and evaluate a technology-enabled stroke education program that
  - shares educational content with nurses in remote areas
  - promotes uptake of best practices through collaboration and partnership
  - identifies human and technology supports required to sustain learning
  - includes a research framework

Research Framework

- Research objectives

  1. To evaluate the impact of educational modalities on nurse-learners' knowledge exchange, self-efficacy, and critical thinking

  2. To document the nurse-learners' experiences of the technology-enabled learning setting

Educational Technologies

- Videoconferencing: three one-hour topic-oriented sessions
- Webcasting: live and archived
- Web-based learning site using WebCT learning management system:
  - supported independent learning
  - provided learning resources
  - facilitated online assessment and surveys

Components of Project

- **Occurred over four consecutive weeks**
- **Week 1:** **Orientation, training sessions**
- **Week 2:** **Neuroanatomy and Cerebral Circulation**
- **Week 3:** **Management of Cognitive and Perceptual Disturbances**
- **Week 4:** **Assessment and Treatment Strategies for the Management of Aphasia**

Learning Activities

- **WebCT bulletin board postings**

- **Case studies**

- **Observation of video clips and completion of questions**

- **Focus in all activities: reflection and application of strategies learned**

WebCT — Stroke Best Practices for Nurses Homepage

Welcome to the pilot offering of the Stroke Best Practices for Nurses education module, in partnership with Laurentian University's School of Nursing, NORTH Network, Headwaters Health Care Centre, Northeastern Ontario Stroke Region, Northwestern Ontario Stroke Region, and the West GTA Stroke Network. This educational opportunity has been developed with the support of the Ministry of Health and Longterm Care (MOHLTC) and is based upon an existing workshop, Stroke Best Practices for Nurses. Your participation in this workshop is key to its success and sustainability. As this is a pilot project, we welcome your input on how to make this a better experience for all involved. This is your opportunity to help shape future educational opportunities for you and your colleagues.

We look upon this as an adventure in learning for all of us, and hope we can have some fun while we are doing it!

About the Presenters   About the Bulletin Board

Workshop Material   Bulletin Board   Web Links

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About the File Formats — Webpage Format PDF Format

Calendar of Events and Release Dates — Click here for the calendar

Workshop Presentations

Neuroanatomy and Cerebral Circulation Review: Linda Kelloway — Webpage Format PDF Format — Additional Material: Learning Activity

Strategies to Manage Cognitive and Perceptual Disturbances in Clients with Stroke: Joan Shaw — Webpage Format PDF Format — Additional Material: Learning Activity

Assessment and Treatment Strategies for the Management of Aphasia in Stroke Patients: Holly Sloan — Webpage Format PDF Format — Additional Material: Learning Activity — Aphasia Document: Objects [PDF] Aphasia Document: Map [PDF]

Neuroanatomy and Cerebral Circulation Review

Linda Kelloway
The West GTA Stroke Network
January 2006

Learning Activity

In this learning activity, you are asked to read two case studies and post your answers on the Bulletin Board. Please make your posting in the section of the Bulletin Board called **Neuroanatomy and Cerebral Circulation Review: Linda Kelloway**.

Although you are welcome to present your answers in point form rather than in sentences, be sure that all point form answers are clear and complete. If you have additional comments to make based on something you have learned in the relevant nursing literature on stroke, please feel free to add this information to your answer.

For a sample of a completed case study to use as a model, visit the Bulletin Board and read the case study found at **Sample Posting: Linda Kelloway**.

Case Study A   Case Study B

Slide 1 (WebCT screenshot):

WebCT | myWebCT Resume Course Course Map Log Out Help

TRIAL COURSE 2 - Catharine Schroeder's course

Homepage > **Bulletin Board**

Discussions

[Compose message] : [Search] [Topic settings]

Click on a topic name to see its messages.

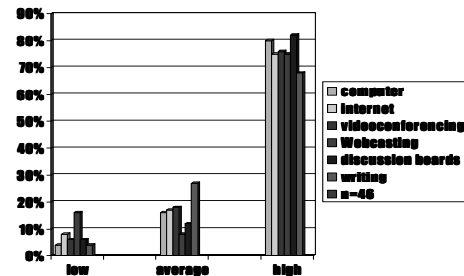| Topic	Unread	Total	Status
Who We Are/Chit Chat	64	64	public, unlocked
Sample Posting: Linda Kelloway	1	1	public, locked
Neuroanatomy and Cerebral Circulation Review: Linda Kelloway	86	86	public, unlocked
Sample Posting: Joan Shaw	1	1	public, locked
Strategies to Manage Cognitive and Perceptual Disturbances in Clients with Stroke: Joan Shaw	58	58	public, unlocked
Sample Posting: Holly Sloan	1	1	public, locked
Assessment and Treatment Strategies for the Management of Aphasia in Stroke Patients: Holly Sloan	43	43	public, unlocked
All	254	254	---

Slide 2:

Research Methodology

- **Pre and post mixed methods design**
- **Questionnaires, surveys, threaded asynchronous bulletin board contributions, and focus groups**
- **Carper's framework, Fundamental Ways of Knowing (Johns, 1995)**
- **Purposive sample of 96 participants**
- **Ethics approval from all hospital sites and Laurentian University**
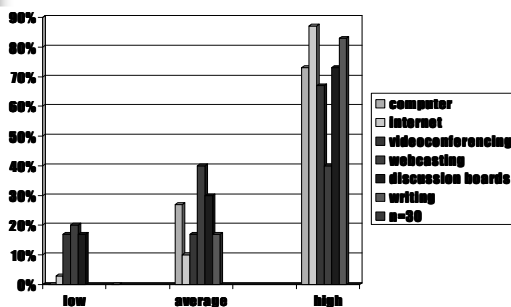

Slide 3:

Results

- **Demographics:**
  - **Mean age:** 43 years
  - **Gender:** 98% Female
  - **Residency:** 94% from Northern Ontario
  - **Mean years/practice:** 17 years
  - **Mean years/stroke:** 8.8 years


Slide 4:

Satisfaction with Technology Components: Pre

Legend: computer, internet, videoconferencing, webcasting, discussion boards, writing, n=46

Slide 5:

Satisfaction with Technology Components: Post

Legend: computer, internet, videoconferencing, webcasting, discussion boards, writing, n=30

Slide 6:

Technologies: Summary

- **Improvements in all areas**
- **Most dramatic in**
  - **webcasting**
  - **general use of the Internet**
  - **general use of the computer**
  - **Writing**

Confidence with Stroke Care: Pre

Confidence with Stroke Care: Post
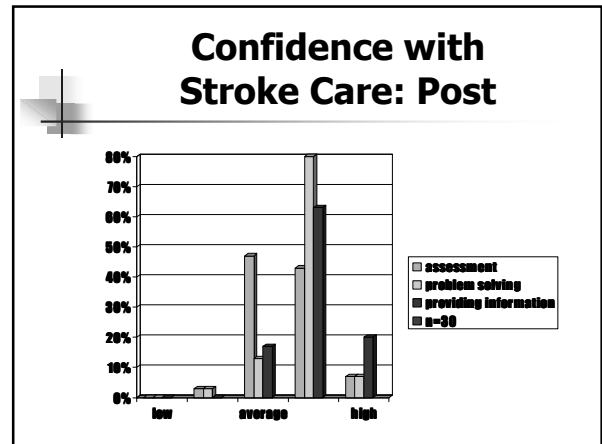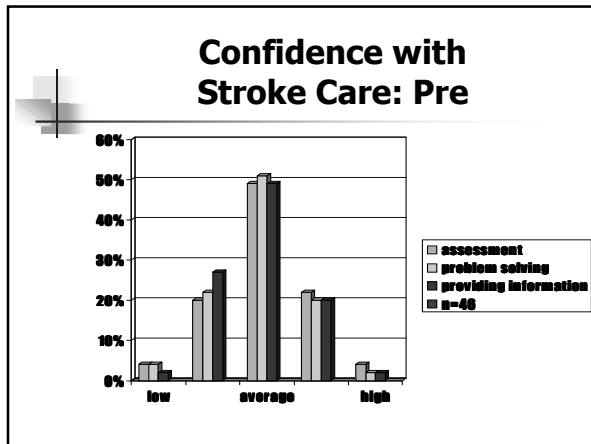
Stroke Care: Summary

- **Improvements in all areas**
- **Most dramatic in**
  - **solving difficult problems**
  - **providing information to health care team**

Other Findings

- **93% respondents reported enhancement of critical thinking skills**

- **evidence of different kinds of thinking in discussion board contributions**

- **the majority showed strong improvement in knowledge through multiple choice quizzes**

Lessons

- **Highly successful despite short time frame to organize**

- **Content regarded as excellent but too heavy**

- **Appreciated mixed technology approach**

Recommendations

- **Needs assessment to determine future topics**

- **Analysis of impact on development of expertise**

- **Conduct environmental scan for funding**

Final Thoughts

- Establishment of partnerships between experts in practice, care continuum, and organizations

- Development of program into university-level course for credit

- Long-term evaluation of knowledge translation into practice

Final Thoughts

"I thought the course was really great and one thing I thought about was there would be no way we'd get this many northerners to one course except for this way (using technology), so way to go!"

Special Acknowledgements

- Rhonda Ferguson, Educational Administrative Assistant

- Nadia Hladin, Regional Program Manager, West GTA Stroke Network

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- Sharolyn Mossey, Director, School of Nursing

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- Holly Sloan, Content Expert, Speech Language Pathologist

- Mary Wheelwright, Project Manager

Questions? Comments?

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