Listing of

Faculty, Student, and Alumni Presentations

141st Annual Meeting & Expo
November 2 - 6, 2013
Boston, Massachusetts
Monday, November 4, 2013

292140 - Ethical issues encountered when researching mother-to-child transmission of HIV through breastfeeding: The touro Ethiopia breastmilk study

Lucy Thairu, MS, PhD, Public Health Program, Touro University, Vallejo, CA

Background: Ethical dilemmas faced in international research are rarely predictable and often arise after receiving IRB approval. Quick response is essential to protect human subjects but making immediate changes to study protocols is rarely a quick process. Barriers to quick response can include communication delays between study staff and investigators, delays in the identifying problems, and difficulties communicating the realities of the work to US-based IRBs.

Wednesday, November 6, 2013: 11:10 AM - 11:20 AM

282964 - School-based comprehensive oral health services in north Vallejo: Assessing oral health behaviors, beliefs and attitudes through a caregiver perspective

Ruby Warnock, MPH (c), College of Education and Health Sciences, Public Health Program, Touro University California, Vallejo, CA

- Ana Maria Mejia, MPH (c), College of Education and Health Sciences, Public Health Program, Touro University California, Vallejo, CA
- Tra Truong, MPH (c), College of Education and Health Sciences, Public Health Program, Touro University California, Vallejo, CA
- Annette Aalborg, DrPH, College of Education and Health Sciences, Public Health Program, Touro University California, Vallejo, CA
- Gayle Cummings, MPH, College of Education and Health Sciences, Public Health Program, Touro University California, Vallejo, CA
- Mey Saephan, MPH (c), College of Education and Health Sciences, Public Health Program, Touro University California, Vallejo, CA
- Nishit Vora, MPH (c), College of Education and Health Sciences, Public Health Program, Touro University California, Vallejo, CA
- Armando Vallin, MPH (c), College of Education and Health Sciences, Public Health Program, Touro University California, Vallejo, CA
- Mithu Bindal, MPH (c), College of Education and Health Sciences, Public Health Program, Touro University California, Vallejo, CA
- Lien Le, MPH (c), College of Education and Health Sciences, Public Health Program, Touro University California, Vallejo, CA

Background: Children of lower socioeconomic status have higher prevalence of untreated dental caries than the general population. Studies show School-Based Health Centers (SBHC) are effective at addressing health care access disparities and increasing the use of health services and satisfaction. The School-Based Comprehensive Oral Health Services Project at Elsa Widenmann Elementary School in Vallejo, CA serves low-income families with children aged 0 to 18 lacking access to quality oral health services.
The concept of women's empowerment as an essential component of international development has gained attention over the past two decades. There has been a shift from thinking of women as targets for fertility control to acknowledging women as autonomous agents who make strategic life choices. There has been an explosion of work that attempts to gain a deeper understanding of empowerment. Along with empowerment as a concept came grassroots movements aimed at disenfranchised women. These movements led to the birth of economic self-help groups that have the unexpected consequence of empowering women by enabling them to take more active roles in decision-making. The objective of this systematic review is to determine the impact of women's participation in economic self-help groups on their empowerment in low and middle-income countries. We base our methodology on the understanding that evidence has been generated from both quantitative and qualitative research, much of which can be useful in informing policy and practice. We intend to conduct an integrated mixed-methods review in order to benefit from data generated through both qualitative and quantitative methodologies and to enhance the review's utility and impact for policymakers. Our search strategy includes searching relevant electronic databases, searching the grey literature, hand searching journals and websites, conducting bibliographic back referencing and program-specific searches, and obtaining key contact recommendations. Our integrated analysis has three stages: a summary of quantitative effects, a summary of relevant qualitative pieces, a synthesis of both summaries that goes beyond the primary studies and generates a new interpretation.
traditional search methods along with methods for searching the relevant grey literature relating to the impact of women's participation in economic self-help groups on their empowerment and health in low and middle-income countries. As these types of comprehensive reviews become more prevalent, consensus around clearly defined guidelines for the search process is necessary.

**Monday, November 4, 2013**

**287613 - Are your patients receiving food stamps - why you want to know**

**Le'Anna St. John, PA-C, MPAS, MSPAS/MPH Program, Touro University California, Vallejo, CA, Garland L. Brinkley, CPH, MPH, PhD, Public Health Program, Touro University California, Vallejo, CA**

Purpose: Participation in federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistant Programs (SNAP) has been associated with an increased BMI and waist circumference among its participants. This study examined the potential for CalFresh recipients (California's SNAP program) to consume a daily caloric intake beyond 3,000 and to consider if nutritional education should be routinely provided to patients participating in SNAP programs.

**Tuesday, November 5, 2013**

**288052 - Economic value of an MPH degree to a clinician**

**Garland L. Brinkley, CPH, MPH, PhD, Public Health Program, Touro University California, Vallejo, CA**

Le'Anna St. John, PA-C, MPAS, MSPAS/MPH Program, Touro University California, Vallejo, CA

Purpose: With the passage of the ACA and the aging of the US population, the current number of clinicians will be wholly inadequate to provide individualized treatment to the dramatic future increases in new consumers. Clinicians who obtain or who currently have an MPH degree which focuses upon treating groups rather than individuals will be necessary to address chronic health conditions for the lowest cost. However, while the need for prevention options is widely recognized, the economic advantages to clinicians have not been sufficiently considered. This study attempts to shed light on the monetary value of an additional MPH degree to a clinician.

**Tuesday, November 5, 2013: 11:18 AM - 11:30 AM**

**291273 - Is healthy for life (H4L), a community-driven, low-cost health education intervention delivered in public schools, effective in reducing childhood obesity in the napa valley unified school district (NVUSD)?**

**Rachel Jeriko, Public Health Program, Touro University California, Vallejo, CA**

Annette Aalborg, DrPH, College of Education and Health Sciences, Public Health Program, Touro University California, Vallejo, CA
Childhood obesity in Napa, CA has risen to 39%, giving Napa County the highest rate in the region. The Healthy for Life (H4L) program is a school-based community-driven health education program implemented in the Napa Valley Unified School District (NVUSD). The program delivers nutrition and physical activity health education classes designed to improve children's healthy eating and physical activity behaviors. The study's purpose is to assess if H4L, a community coalition-developed program, is effective in reducing childhood obesity over time.

Monday, November 4, 2013: 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

3302.0 Poster Session 3: HIV/AIDS & Related Issues

Poster

Board 4
Relationship between maternal levels of education and literacy with knowledge about mother-to-child transmission (MTCT) of HIV among women of reproductive age from urban oromia in Ethiopia - Linae Young, MPH Candidate 2013

Board 6
Ethical issues encountered when researching mother-to-child transmission of HIV through breastfeeding: The touro Ethiopia breastmilk study - Lucy Thairu, MS, PhD

Tuesday, November 5, 2013: 5:30 PM - 5:50 PM

288733 - Student community based research teams: Improving public health competencies and skills

Annette Aalborg, DrPH, College of Education and Health Sciences, Public Health Program, Touro University California, Vallejo, CA
Gayle Cummings, MPH, College of Education and Health Sciences, Public Health Program, Touro University California, Vallejo, CA

Background: Public Health (PH) field study supervisors and employers have reported MPH students frequently lack applied PH skills required in the PH workforce setting. Study Aims: To assess student's learning of applied PH competencies and skills among MPH students participating in faculty led community-based research projects.
283411 - Costs and benefits: An ethical analysis tool for short-term global health field study programs

Carinne Brody, DrPH, Public Health Program, Touro University California, Vallejo, CA
Assefaw Ghebrekidan, MD, DrPH, Public Health program, Touro University, Vallejo, CA

The number of academic global health programs within US-based universities has increased over the past ten years. Today, most medical and global public health programs include some type of overseas field study component. There appears to be collective agreement that institutions who send students on short-term field study experiences in resource-poor countries have a minimum moral obligation to ensure that host institutions are not worse off as a result of their collaboration. Considering the benefits to US-based students in terms of their awareness to global health issues and their opportunity to apply didactic training to practical situations, we argue that sending institutions are also obliged to ensure that host institutions benefit from the partnership. There are several barriers to assessing the costs and benefits of these partnerships including the sending institutions lack of initiative, the host institutions fear of disrupting the partnership and unclear guidelines for how to make this calculation. The objective of this project is to develop an online tool for calculating the benefit and the burden of short-term global health field study experiences that can be adapted to any institutional partnership. Data from five large sending universities and fifteen recipient organizations is collected and analyzed using iterative versions of an adapted version of cost-benefit analysis tool. A new tool is developed using the results of these analyses.

281451 - Distribution of misoprostol in post-abortion care services in La Paz, Bolivia

Manjot Multani, MPH, College of Health Sciences and Education, Touro University California, Vallejo, CA

Background the two major causes of maternal mortality worldwide are unsafe abortion and post-partum hemorrhage, 13% and 25% of maternal deaths respectively. Misoprostol is a drug used to prevent and/or treat PPH and to safely evacuate the fetus in the first trimester. In most countries, the drug has been approved to prevent gastric ulcers and is used off-label to terminate pregnancy. It is debatable whether misoprostol is more effective than oxytocin in treating PPH. In countries where abortion is illegal, as in Bolivia, the off-label use of misoprostol is controversial. The purpose of this study was to investigate the use of misoprostol in Post Abortion Care services (PAC) in La Paz, Bolivia. PAC services are nationwide programs implemented in developing countries with restrictive abortion laws to offer women obstetric and gynecological care in a safe, clinical environment.
Monday, November 4, 2013

286190 - Relationship between maternal levels of education and literacy with knowledge about mother-to-child transmission (MTCT) of HIV among women of reproductive age from urban oromia in Ethiopia

Linae Young, MPH Candidate 2013, Master of Public Health, Touro University, Vallejo, CA

In 2009, approximately 370,000 children were infected with HIV, more than 90% were infected through MTCT (1). In the absence of any intervention, the risk of MTCT during pregnancy, childbirth, and breastfeeding ranges from 15-45% (2). Prior to the use of antiretroviral treatment (ART), HIV was responsible for 35.2% of child mortality within the first year of birth and 52.5% by age two (3). This research assessed the knowledge of a) MTCT through breastfeeding, pregnancy and delivery and b) the use of ART for the prevention of MTCT. This research utilized secondary data from the 2011 Ethiopia Demographic and Health Survey.

Monday, November 4, 2013

286155 - Public health surveillance of toxic cyanobacteria in freshwater using remote sensing

Trina Mackie, PhD, Public Health Program, College or Education and Health Sciences, Touro University California, Vallejo, CA

Cyanotoxins, produced by the cyanobacteria that can proliferate in fresh and salt-water, cause a range of harmful health effects. Cyanobacterial blooms are now increasingly prevalent in freshwaters as eutrophication becomes ever more common with anthropogenic drivers like climate change, hydroelectric dams and agricultural waste. This research project evaluated the efficacy of remote sensors to assist in characterizing the presence, distribution, and concentration of toxic algae in freshwater systems for surveillance and early detection, which are keys to effective public health disease prevention.