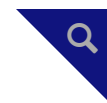


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Research Article

Effect of a Preparedness Program on Readiness of Village Health Volunteers for Dementia Screening and Risk Reduction in the Community

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ABSTRACT

Purpose

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community based dementia screening and risk reduction. Consequently, this study evaluated a preparedness program designed to enhance VHVs' readiness for dementia screening and risk reduction.

Design

This study used a quasi-experimental, pretest-posttest design with non-equivalent groups, guided by the Innovative Care for Chronic Conditions (ICCC) framework.

Methods

A multistage random sampling approach was used to recruit 96 VHVs from diverse lowland and highland communities in northern Thailand, where geographic diversity affects the delivery of community health services. Participants were assigned to either an experimental group ($n = 48$) or a control group ($n = 48$). The experimental group participated in a structured preparedness program focused on dementia screening and risk reduction. Data collected via a validated self-perceived readiness questionnaire (reliability = .81) were analyzed using descriptive statistics and independent t-tests.

Findings

The experimental group showed significantly higher mean difference readiness scores than the control group ($t = 17.24$, $p < .001$). The study found significant gains across six dimensions: target registration, joint planning, screening and classification, recording and referral, proactive risk-reduction, and monitoring and reporting ($p < .001$ for all).

Conclusion

The findings confirm that the program effectively improved the readiness of VHVs for dementia screening and risk reduction. It provides a practical model for nurses and public health personnel to strengthen community-based dementia care.

Clinical Relevance

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reduction. It provides frontline nurses with a practical tool to support accurate screening, timely referral, and continuous follow-up in community-based care.

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Disclosure Statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the author(s).

Additional information

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