Aims/Objectives

The main objective of this project was to evaluate the delivery mode of the 2-day workshop using video communication technology. In this context the PDC team also wanted to assess if the delivery mode supported educational needs and if the topics presented at the workshop were useful for the participant’s clinical practice and networking. This was in particular relevant, so the PDC can tailor future workshops addressing the long term care of the older person.

Methodology/Design

A mixed method approach was used to evaluate the 2-day workshop. Three questionnaires were developed: one pre-workshop which was given to participants on the first day prior to commencing with the program. At the end of day two the participants were asked to complete a post-workshop questionnaire. Both these questionnaires were supplied as a hard copy. The third and final questionnaire was sent to participants via email three months after the workshop (1st of November 2016). A reminder email was delivered to those who had not completed the questionnaire on the 8th of November, 2016 and the closing date for the questionnaire was the 14th of November, 2016.

Findings

Below are only a few selected data sheets with results. Overall satisfaction was achieved (Figure 4) and qualitative data showed a wealth of themes (Figure 5) and post workshop. This might highlight that existing expectations and knowledge of the nurses involved in older care ranges widely and is multifaceted due to the complex issues of this patient group. It could also indicate that the wide range of topics offered during the 2-day workshop reinforced pre-existing knowledge and added new information and skills.

Findings cont.

The responses how participants viewed their knowledge post the 2-day workshop showed a confirmation of existing knowledge for this patient group, but also an expansion on knowledge and skills regarding BCD and poly pharmacy. When evaluating the use pre and post workshop pertaining to using VCT technology with patients, the online survey takes 2 months after participating in the workshop does not reflect an increase in the use of this model of interaction with consumers/clients (Figure 7). However in regards to patient care, a significant amount of the patients 87.3% reported in the post questionnaire that they understanding of the needs of people living with long term conditions had increased.

Recommendations

The main questions that this project set out to answer were achieved. Participants’ expectations of the workshop were met (Figure 6) and the mode of delivery (VCT) appreciated as a useful and efficient way of interaction/learning. However other aspects emerging through this project warrant consideration.

A further aspect emerging was the complex educational needs of this patient group, which was recognised by the participants (pre workshop, Figure 4) and also evidenced by the multi-faceted comments in the themes emerging from the post workshop questionnaire, outlining new knowledge (Implanted Cardioretter Defibrillator - ICD, Poly pharmacy-clinical skills, tasks) and possibly learning that was reinforced.

The age of the workforce engaging with this patient group presented as mainly in the bracket of 48-59 years, did reflect the picture of the ageing workforce in NZ.

A further point to consider was that the online response 2 months after the workshop delivery was very small (only 10 responses) and could be seen as an over-evaluation.

Going forward aims and objectives could be more clearly defined now for any future research projects and in regard to the wide range of sub themes, future workshops could be specifically tailored towards the topics that emerged.

References