Quality Improvement: Screening Tools

Allana Hearn, Moses Li, Kaitlin Kirkpatrick
The project

- We worked with Downtown Community Health Centre to streamline and update various screening tools
- Researched health promotion, benefits and consequences of screening in vulnerable populations and health literacy
- Created clinician and patient educational tools
- Presented to Quality Improvement Committee at DCHC
Health Promotion: Screening

- Screening as health promotion strategy
- Benefits and Risks
- Efficacy
  - Sensitivity vs specificity
  - Outcome measures
Frameworks

Patient
- Provide education, facilitate informed consent
- Provide patient with resources within the community
- Consideration of health literacy Concise delivery of evidence-based facts

Clinician
- Provide up to date information on current standards
- Provide answers for common patient questions
- Implications for nursing practice and workload
Controversy of universal screening

Lack of evidence showing screening significantly reduces outcomes

Lack of evidence that is generalizable to the DTES
Prostate – PSA + DRE

- Lack of evidence showing screening significantly reduces mortality
- Burden of treatment
- Trauma–informed care
- Who and when to screen
Cardiovascular Risk – HTN and Framingham

- Standardizing Framingham screening throughout clinic
- Ensuring proper documentation of BP measurements and follow-up protocol
- Discussing lifestyle education through a harm reduction lens
- Use of “cardiovascular age” as a way to engage patients
Cervical Cancer – Pap Testing

- Want to provide common terminology used in lab results report

- Inform who and when screening should/should not take place
  - Hysterectomy
  - Following HPV vaccine
  - Not sexually active
Health Promotion Calendar

- Way to promote screening within the DCHC through monthly campaigns

- Used national and provincial health promotion days/weeks to guide planning
  - Use pre-existing social marketing campaigns to enhance chosen screening months

- Hope to implement calendar within DCHC in the near future
  - Next steps – creating/gathering resources and generating staff awareness
Moving Forward

- Framework can be applied to future topics of interest
  - Colorectal cancer
  - Breast cancer

- Working on algorithm for workflow
  - Need staff input and feedback