Integrating **Community Health Workers into the Care** of Children with Type **1** Diabetes

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08/16/2022 | Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) Diabetes Center for Children | Aiyana Mate JUC



<u>Mentors</u>

Dr. Steven Willi, MD

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Principal Investigator

Dr. Colin P. Hawkes, MBBChB, MEd, MD, PhD



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Dr. Julie Gettings, PhD

Joanne Levy, MBA, MPC



Background: Type 1 Diabetes

- Chronic condition in which the pancreas produces little or no insulin
- Treated through management of blood glucose levels using insulin
 - Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) measures average blood sugar levels over a period of 2 to 3 months



Extensive disparities exist across type 1 diabetes outcomes

Figure 1. Annualized Hemoglobin A1c of CHOP Diabetes Patients with Government Insurance vs. Commercial Insurance





Background: Community Health Workers (CHWs)

- Provide culturally competent, patient-tailored support
 - Aid in coordination and communication between community members and healthcare providers
 - Trained on issues relating to health adherence, medication access, food and housing insecurity, and health education
 - Develop individualized goals and plans with patients and their families
- Previously associated with improved clinical outcomes in other departments at CHOP

Project Overview





at CHOP



Participant Characteristics

- Patients ages 4-18 who have had a type 1 diabetes diagnosis for at least a year

- Sum of 2 or more: diabetes-related hospitalizations, Emergency Department visits, missed visits
 OR
- Hemoglobin A1c greater than 9.5 % at time of enrollment

Methods

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Figure 2. Schedule of Study Procedures.







Glycemic Control Hemoglobin A1c



Utilization

Hospital Admissions, ED visits. No shows



Caregiver **Satisfaction and Self-efficacy**

Healthcare trust, Quality of Life, Self-efficacy questionnaires



And more!

Number of attended visits. changes to diabetes regimen and technology

Early Results

Figure 3. Hemoglobin A1c of Intervention Group at Baseline and after 6 months with a Community Health Worker



Significance

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- Addressing health disparities through direct intervention and engagement with patients and their families
- Establishing a framework for the expansion of CHW programs in diabetes care
- Demonstrating the impact of CHWs across multiple outcome measures







Chart Review and Data entry

- Entered clinical outcome values and other medical information from medical records into RedCap research database
- Cross-checked study visit dates across databases to ensure chart accuracy
- Documented healthcare utilization such as hospitalizations and visit no shows into Red Cap forms





Addressing Racial Disparities in Diabetes

Principal Investigators

- Dr. Steven Willi
- Dr. Colin Hawkes
- Dr. Terri Lipman

Project Description:

- Caregiver Feedback:
 Obtaining caregiver
 perspectives on care to
 better understand disparities
- Provider perspective: Investigating provider bias and improving provider practices to mitigate disparities
- Data infrastructure: Developing an IT infrastructure to identify and
 - reduce disparities in diabetes

care

My role:

- Attended team meetings and collaborated to create study instruments
- Generated provider-specific codes for survey administration

The Role of Grit in Determining Outcomes amongTeens withType 1 Diabetes

37 Principal Investigators:

- Dr. Steven Willi
 - Dr. Herodes Guzman

Project Description:

Evaluating the effect the personality trait Grit, measured by questionnaires, on glycemic control, measured by HbA1c



My role:

- Medical Record Review to Screen
 for Eligible Participants
- Approaching eligible patients and their caregivers in clinic
- Review of informed consent form and administration of survey

Depression Scores and Suicide Attempt History are Independently Associated with Elevated Hemoglobin A1c in Adolescents and Young Adults with Type 1 Diabetes





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Principal Investigator:

Dr. Julie Gettings

Project Description:

Evaluating associations between patient depression scores, suicide attempt history, and glycemic control

My role:

 Conducted a literature review for manuscript development



Lessons Learned

Using Epic #01

Navigating electronic health records for recruitment and data collection

Using RedCap#02

Survey administration, survey design, and data entry



Different Research Perspectives #03

Answering a research question multiple ways

Patient- Family Interaction#04

Approaching patients and caregivers in clinic

Time Management #05

Creating weekly schedules and goals



Thanks! Any questions?

