

TIKANGA CULTURAL SUPERVISION

Multicultural Implications



INTRODUCTION:

The Mental Health Nursing Internship Programme provides an opportunity for registered nurses who do not have previous mental health nursing experience, to develop competence, confidence and mental health nursing skills while working alongside experienced mental health nurses. They also complete a post-graduate certificate in mental health nursing. Like many other mental health services, nationally and internationally, Waitemata District Health Board recognizes the importance of developing clinical practice and supervision is seen as an integral part of this.

The 2006 Census identified that there are 42,603 Maori living within the Waitemata DHB catchment. This represents 7.6% of the total Maori population in New Zealand. Of the 22 interns completing the 2008 programme, only 2 identified as Maori. Both Te Rau Hinengaro and Te Puawaiwhero identified high Maori mental health need across all DHB's. In response to these 2 factors an assumption was made that the interns required extra support and guidance when working with Maori. So in consultation with Whitiki Maurea (Maori Mental Health and Addiction Service) Kaumatua a decision was made to include Maori cultural supervision as part of the programme.

OBJECTIVES:

- To deliver a supported process that will provide registered nurses completing the Mental Health Nursing Internship Programme essential knowledge when working with Maori. (Please note this process is offered in conjunction with and not instead of, other Maori learning and development offered by Waitemata DHB)
- To encourage a sense of whanaungatanga (partnership) when working with Maori

METHOD:

Initially Whai Arataki Cultural Supervision was to be offered as a pilot from July 2008, as ongoing sustainability needed to be evaluated by Whitiki Maurea

- Facilitation by Whitiki Maurea Kaumatua and Taurawhiri (Maori Cultural Advisor)
- All sessions to take place at a Maori wahi, observing Ngati Whutua protocols
- Four 2 hour sessions to be held at 6 weekly intervals inclusive of Hakari (Shared Lunch)
- Compulsory attendance was requested (However was not part of successfully completing the programme)
- Outcome indicators were attendance, participation and task completion
- An evaluation form completed by Interns at session 3 provided feedback
- Evaluation by Facilitators

THEMES:

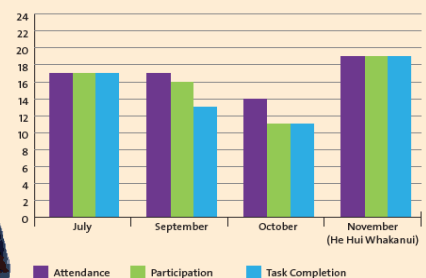
Whai Arataki was underpinned by 3 major themes, the Treaty of Waitangi, Dynamics of Whanaungatanga, Tikanga and Kawa. Te Whare Tapa Wha model (Durie, 1998) was referred to and discussed throughout the sessions. Sub Themes included:

Powhiri	Whaikorero	Wairua
Karanga	Waiata	Haputanga
Karakia	Manaakitanga	Tangihanga
Mihimihi	Tiakitanga	Tapu and Noa



RESULTS:

Whai Arataki / Supervision Whanaungatanga



FEEDBACK:

Feedback from Interns:

- Thorough and extensive
- Repetitive
- Could information be provided prior to each session
- Academic and Clinical workload prioritised before supervision
- Some misunderstanding/misinterpretation of why they were attending
- Wanting to know more

Feedback from Facilitators:

- Further discussion required by Whitiki Maurea Kaumatua
- Time for the delivery of Whai Arataki to be factored into work schedule
- Increase the number of sessions
- Length of session to be re-considered
- Consideration be given to where the majority of interns are based clinically to encourage attendance
- A valuable process that supports learning through whanaungatanga

CONCLUSION:

Cultural competence is the acquisition of skills to better understand members of other cultures in order to achieve best health outcomes (Durie, 2003).

Both the results and feedback indicate that more robust planning and explanation is required prior to continuing with Whai Arataki in 2009. In regards to other work being prioritised before supervision, this is consistent with current supervision literature. If Whai Arataki is to be delivered in 2009, sessions need to start at the commencement of the programme to truly imbue Tikanga and Kawa through Whanaungatanga.

By delivering Maori cultural supervision interns will be enabled to weave Maori perspectives into the clinical context.

References:

- Durie, M. (1998). Whaiora: Maori health development. Auckland: Oxford University Press.
- Durie, M. (2003). www.teiho.org