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# Decreasing Environmental Health Risks in the Philippines: Implementation of a Culturally

Appropriate Screening Tool

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#### Abstract

**Objectives:** The purpose of this DNP project was to increase the knowledge of environmental health risk factors in the Philippines among nurses and doctors located within that healthcare system. The overall goal was to educate providers on local environmental health risks, provide training for the use of a screening tool (Tagalog Environmental Health and Safety Assessment Tool [TEHSAT]), and provide resources aimed at increasing screening of at risk populations and provide opportunities for education and health promotion.

**Methods:** This project included a two-part educational training session. The first part included a preliminary presentation on environmental health and the use of the screening toolkit. The second part was developing practice proficiency with the TEHSAT. Following the educational intervention, the DNP author provided on-site resources to BSN and MAN level nursing students required to implement the toolkit into clinical practice.

**Results:** The results of the educational project revealed positive findings, in which 79% of the nursing students were able to increase their knowledge pertaining to environmental health risks after the educational sessions. Additionally, more than 50% of the nursing students felt readily equipped to screen patients for environmental health risk in clinical practice.

**Conclusion:** After an education workshop had been conducted in a semi-rural city of a developing country, the results assert increased knowledge attainment with regard to environmental health. Advanced practice nursing students were able to use and reference the toolkit by conducting screening of and providing education to patients in their workplaces. Overall, both undergraduate and graduate students found the educational session and the toolkit to be beneficial. All of them are likely to use and refer to the toolkit throughout their nursing careers. As a secondary outcome, the dean of the college of nursing has expressed interest in

continuing this project as part of the curriculum in the Fall of 2018.

Keywords: Environmental health, public health, risk assessment, health screening, environmental toxins, environmental hazards, health education, lead, mercury, smog, household chemicals, pesticides, allergens, VOC, Filipino, Philippines, education

## **Section I: Introduction**

# **Background Knowledge**

Environmental health comprises the physical, chemical, and biological factors that are external to a person and contributes to the assessment and control of the environmental factors that can potentially affect one's health (WHO, 2017). Maintaining a safe environment prevents one from being exposed to toxins that can increase the risk pertaining to the contraction of various diseases (Healthy People 2020, 2017). The negative correlation between environmental exposures and health issues is becoming increasingly significant in the Philippines, where public health is negatively affected by factors such as poverty, lack of education, and population pressures (De La Paz & Colson, 2008). Understanding such connections and addressing the issues in a culturally sensitive manner are significant for achieving positive health outcomes. Lead, mercury, smog, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are only a few of the numerous environmental health toxins that are not only carcinogenic but are also associated with neurological, cardiovascular, respiratory, and gastrointestinal diseases (De La Paz & Colson, 2008).

## Local Problem

The Philippines is a country in Southeast Asia that consists of more than 7,000 islands in the Western Pacific (De La Paz & Colson, 2008). The challenges associated with the maintenance of public health are rising steadily with the increase of the Philippines' population. According to De La Paz and Colson (2008), Metro Manila, Philippines has the highest rate of unemployment nationwide (13.1%), in addition to low rates of college education. Hummer and Hernandez (2013) established a link between higher education attainment and lower mortality rates. The factors associated with longevity include higher socioeconomic status, access to health

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care, positive health behaviors, and the development of social and psychological resources (Hummer, & Hernandez, 2013).

According to the WHO (2017), the annual average air quality index in Manila, Philippines exceeds the recommended safe level by 70%. Outdoor air pollution primarily comes from particulate matter from motor vehicles. Indoor air pollution stems from fuelwood cooking, carbon monoxide, and tobacco smoke. Consequently, about one in four deaths in the Philippines is attributed to air pollution (WHO, 2017). Water pollution also poses significant environmental health risks. About one-fourth of the population in the Philippines lives in households without sanitary toilets (Raturi & Gautier, 2006). Poor water sanitation exposes the public to bacteria, parasites, and pathogens. Additionally, metal pollutants from mining and industrial sources, such as lead and mercury, lead to contamination of the water supply. This accounts for one-sixth of the reported disease cases and around 6,000 premature deaths per year in the Philippines (Raturi & Gautier, 2006).

Ignacio et al. (2015) studied the health status of Filipinos living in Occidental Mindoro, Philippines. Ignacio et al. (2015) assessed the residents' level of health status, knowledge, and practices. Qualitative data was gathered through a questionnaire to assess the participant's demographics, lifestyle, socio-economic status, and current and past health status. Although participants rated themselves as moderately healthy, this was not reflected in the health and lifestyle choices that they made. Ignacio et al. (2015) found that environmental health education related to air, water, and waste management, water quality and availability, toilet sanitation, and disease prevention was warranted.

The environmental health challenges are a cause for concern in the Philippines due to the limited resources and rapidly growing population. To tackle these health issues, the Philippines developed an action plan with the WHO that supports the national vision "All for Health towards Health for All," as part of the Philippine Health Agenda for 2017 to 2022 (WHO, 2017). This agenda helps to ensure the best health outcomes for all Filipinos, regardless of gender, religion, socio-economic class, or geographic location (WHO, 2017). The five strategic priorities for the WHO's collaboration with the Philippines include saving lives, promoting individuals' wellbeing, protecting health, optimizing health infrastructure, and using various platforms concerning health (WHO, 2017).

#### **Specific Aims**

This project aims to increase the knowledge of environmental health risks in the Filipino population by educating providers on environmental exposures, providing training for the use of the Tagalog Environmental Health and Safety Assessment Tool (TEHSAT), providing resources to increase the screening of at risk populations, and providing more opportunities for education and health promotion. Additionally, this project aims to be incorporated into the curriculum of nursing schools and other health science programs.

# PICOT

The PICOT question guiding this DNP project was: Can increasing awareness of environmental health risks and educating providers enhance screening and promote health in the Filipino population?

#### **Search Process**

The literature review was composed of two parts, a primary study of environmental health toxins and adverse events to health, and a secondary study of environmental health, education, and disease in the Filipino population. Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL), PubMed, Environment Complete, and Science Direct were the main databases scanned for this review. Keywords and alternative terms that were used in the search process include: *Environmental health, public health, risk assessment, health screening, environmental toxins, environmental hazards, health education, lead, mercury, smog, household chemicals, pesticides, allergens, VOC, Filipino, Philippines, education.* The search process yielded 1,886 articles on general environmental health issues. Inclusion criteria included articles published in the English language and publications between the year 2000 and 2018. Eight articles were selected given relevancy for the review of literature on environmental health specific to the Filipino population. A study of gray literature was also completed. This includes reviewing guidelines and resources from the World Health Organization (WHO), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the American Public Health Association (APHA), Center for Environmental Health (CEH), and Healthy People 2020.

#### **Evidence Rating Strategy**

The John Hopkins Nursing Evidence-Based Practice (JHNEBP) Research Evidence Appraisal Tool was used to evaluate the studies selected in the review of evidence (Appendix A). This tool analyzes the quality and strength of the studies based on an evidence rating scale. A majority of the articles were rated as either 2A or 2B.

#### **Review of Evidence**

According to the World Health Organization (WHO) (2017), worldwide ambient air pollution accounts for 25% of all deaths and diseases resulting from lung cancer, 17% of all deaths and diseases from acute lower respiratory infection, 15% of all deaths and diseases from ischemic heart disease, and 8% of all deaths and diseases from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Pollutants that are present in the atmosphere provide the strongest evidence for public health concern (WHO, 2017). In addition to air pollution, chemicals and pesticides exert a significant impact on health. According to the WHO (2017), unintentional poisonings are estimated to cause 193,000 deaths annually, with the majority occurring due to preventable chemical exposures. It is important to note that addressing lead exposure would prevent 9.8% of intellectual disability, 4% of ischemic heart disease, and 4.6% of strokes in the Filipino population (CDC, 2017).

Environmental toxins such as mercury, radon, asbestos, and cigarette smoke are just some of the many pollutants increasingly found in our water, air, and food (Crinnion, 2000). According to Crinnion (2000), a few of the symptoms of toxic damage include changes in one's sleeping patterns, mood, weight, appetite, temperature, sexual interest, hair growth, and skin texture. Exposures to such toxins have a negative effect on the immune system's function, leading to an increase in one's sensitivity towards allergens and decreased response towards fighting infections.

**Pesticides.** Exposure to chemicals such as pesticides, intensifies the risk of cancers associated with the brain, breasts, and lungs (Crinnion, 2000). According to Woodruff, Zota, and Schwartz (2011), through a study conducted on pregnant women in the United States, participants had 43 different environmental chemicals present in the participants' system, including polychlorinated biphenyls, organochlorine pesticides, perfluorinated compounds, phenols, polybrominated diphenyl ethers, phthalates, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, and perchlorate. Such chemicals are known to interact with hormonal pathways and result in endocrine disruption, negative effects on reproduction, and/or birth defects (Zlatnik, 2016). In the Philippines, pesticides are used prevalently by farmers who plant vegetables, bananas, and rice (Zlatnik, 2016). In addition to agricultural production, pesticides are also use in the home environment, as pests such as insects and rodents are common. Educating the public on ways to

prevent pesticide exposure and use of safer alternatives can help increase awareness and reduce adverse health outcomes.

Air Pollutants. In the Philippines, the increasing number of motor vehicles over the past decade has significantly reduced the country's air quality, where diesel emissions from buses, jeepneys, utility vehicles, and trucks are estimated to be the largest contributor to contaminated air (De La Paz & Colson, 2008). Air pollution is known to contribute to respiratory diseases such as asthma, emphysema, COPD, and lung cancer (WHO, 2017).

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are a group of air pollutants that are active in the formation of photochemical smog and ground level ozone production (Balanay & Lungu, 2013). Benzene, 1,2-butadiene, formaldehyde and acetaldehyde are the most common VOCs found to be carcinogenic in the atmosphere of urban areas, as stated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (Balanay & Lungu, 2013). Balanay and Lungu (2013) assessed the concentration of VOCs from jeepneys in Manila, Philippines. Jeepneys are a common mode of transportation used all throughout the islands of the Philippines. They are semi-enclosed vehicles that can seat approximately 14-20 passengers. Both personal and area VOC concentration samples were acquired from the fifteen jeepney drivers who participated in this study. The results indicated a significantly higher (p < 0.05) concentration of VOCs in the personal samples obtained from the participants, which increases one's exposure to respiratory problems (Balanay & Lungu, 2013). Many low-income children who spend a majority of their day selling goods out on the streets are at higher risk for asthma and other respiratory symptoms. Jeepney drivers, street vendors, and industrial workers must be educated on the toxic exposures of these air pollutants. Wearing a mask is one way to reduce exposure (Balanay & Lungu, 2013).

Cigarette smoking continues to be prevalent in Southeast Asian countries such as the

Philippines (WHO, 2017). According to the WHO (2017), 17.3 million Filipinos ages 15 years and older are current tobacco smokers. Smokers often begin at a young age and continue on to adulthood. First hand smoking increases the risk for cardiovascular diseases and respiratory diseases, such as asthma, COPD, and even lung cancer. Pregnant women who smoke or are exposed to secondhand smoke, can risk pregnancy complications (WHO, 2017). As a major preventable cause for death and disease, it is important for healthcare professionals to provide resources for smoking cessation and education during patient visits (WHO, 2017).

Lead. Riddell et al. (2007), investigated the prevalence of lead poisoning in children residing in the rural central region of the Philippines. A total of 2861 participants were tested for blood lead levels (BLL) in order to determine the prevalence of toxicity. The sample items tested included drinking water, soil, paint chips, dust wipes, canned tuna, candy wrappers, petrol, motor oil, and fishing weights. The results showed that at least 21% of participants had a BLL that was greater than 10  $\mu$ g/dl. In addition to the high prevalence of lead in objects both indoors and outdoors, many houses in the Philippines were built before 1978 and are likely to contain lead-based paint. When paint peels or cracks it creates lead dust, which can easily be inhaled or ingested. Awareness of the negative effects of lead and ways to decrease exposure is warranted.

**Mercury.** Suk et al. (2003) examined the environmental threats to the health of children in Southeast Asian countries. High levels of mercury arising from small-scale gold mining operations in countries such as the Philippines were found. Such activities not only expose the workers to toxic substances, but also contaminate irrigation and water systems. Mercury has affected marine life, seafood, livestock, and agriculture. Exposure and consumption of mercury have been found to have harmful effects on the nervous, digestive, and renal systems (Suk et al., 2003). In addition, such occurrences were determined to be the cause of diarrhea, headaches, tremors, insomnia, and developmental delays in children (Suk et al., 2003).

**Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).** Villeneuve et al. (2009) analyzed the effects of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) on sediments and seafood found in Manila Bay. To elaborate, PCBs are a type of industrial chemical, the presence of which has been reported in the coastal seas of the Philippines. This chemical has negative effects on the health of both aquatic and human life. The results identified a significant concentration of PCBs in the oysters and other sea creatures that were tested. A high consumption of seafood could be sufficient to exceed the maximum tolerance levels in this regard. In many areas of the Philippines, fish is considered a main part of the diet due to the abundance of fishing grounds. Consumption of chemicals such as PCBs are known to cause skin conditions, such as acne and rashes, in addition to gastrointestinal discomfort, endocrine changes, and liver cancer (Villeneuve et al., 2009). Consequently, educating the public about safe food handling and the importance of following local fish advisories is crucial to limiting negative health outcomes.

**Education.** According to Divinagracia (2014), there has been an influx in the number of new nursing schools in the Philippines, which is attributed to the high demand and high paying jobs that nurses have in developed countries. Upon examining the quality of the nursing programs, a survey of 2,392 faculty found that only 58% of the instructors have a BSN, 23% have a Masters of Art in Nursing (MAN), 8% have a Master of Arts (MA), and less than 1% have a doctorate degree (Divinagracia, 2014). A majority of nursing faculty still lack advanced education and training. This ultimately affects the quality of education in these nursing programs. Many students believe that taking a practical nursing course is a faster way of going abroad to work and escape poverty (Divinagracia, 2014).

## **Theoretical Framework**

Leininger's Cultural Care Diversity and Universality Theory is the framework adopted to guide and support this project. Leininger (2007) states that, "Culture care incorporates religion, politics, economics, cultural history, life span values, kinship, geo-environmental factors, and the philosophy of living as potential influencers" (p. 9, para 1). The Filipino culture is comprised of elements that are indigenous, imported, and borrowed. This is a combination of folk traditions, Catholic concepts brought over during the Spanish colonization, and Western medicine. A few of the most common cultural beliefs include "pasma" (hot/cold syndrome), "sumpa" (curse), "namaligno" (supernatural cause), and "kaloob ng Diyos" (God's will) (Abad et al., 2014). Moreover, the cultural and religious beliefs of the Filipino people play a significant role in the way they live their life and the type of healthcare that they seek. When addressing health screening and assessment specific to a population, it is important to examine the way in which cultural influences and behaviors might impact the need for the various kinds of information that are delivered and the approach adopted with respect to patient education.

Along with Leininger's Cultural Care Diversity and Universality Theory, integration of the Health Belief Model (HBD) can be employed as a guide for understanding health behaviors. According to Hayden (2014), "The HBM addresses four major components for compliance with recommended health action: perceived barriers of recommended health action, perceived benefits of recommended health action, perceived susceptibility of the disease, and perceived severity of the disease" (p. 38, para 2). Hence, understanding the factors that affect behavior compliance can help healthcare providers influence and/or bring about positive health outcomes.

This DNP project utilizes both Leininger's Cultural Care Diversity and Universality Theory and the HBM as a framework for understanding cultural differences related to health beliefs and behaviors. This promotes cultural awareness and culturally appropriate communication related to environmental health. It is important for healthcare professionals to provide a holistic approach to healthcare, taking into consideration all the aspects that are related to culture care.

#### Section II: Methods

# Setting

Pangasinan is a semirural province in the island of Luzon, Philippines. Home to over two million people, only about 19% of the population pursue higher education (Philippine Statistics Authority, 2002). Lyceum Northwestern University (LNU) is one of the colleges that is located in Pangasinan, Philippines. Founded in 1969, it had the reputation of being the "first medical school of the north." They offer both bachelor's and master's degree programs in nursing, in addition to other health sciences and technical-vocational livelihood courses.

Lyceum Northwestern University (LNU) in Pangasinan, Philippines offer courses in business, medicine, dentistry, nursing, international tourism, hospitality management, medical laboratory science, pharmacy, engineering, information and computing studies, maritime education, midwifery, criminal justice, and radiologic technology. With about 4,000 students registered, roughly 1,800 are foreign students who are also enrolled on ground.

LNU began as a small nursing school, and continues to be known for its College of Nursing after expansion. The BSN curriculum pattern incorporates a Community Health Nursing class that focuses on the individual and family as clients, population groups, and the community as clients (Commissioner on Higher Education, 2017). Although concepts related to community health are incorporated into the nursing curriculum, a limited amount of time and education is dedicated to topics concerning environmental health. During clinical or practicum, nursing students are taught how to utilize basic nursing assessment tools, such as the pain assessment tool and falls risk assessment. However, little to no attention is paid to screening and education with respect to environmental exposures (Commissioner on Higher Education, 2017).

The graduate nursing curriculum pattern consists of classes such as, foundations of nursing, advanced medical-surgical, advanced psychiatric nursing, biostatistics, advanced research, maternal child nursing, administrative nursing education and service, administrative process, evaluation supervision, and intensive practicum. Graduate nursing curricula focus on the following roles: Ambulatory Care, Cardiovascular Nursing, Critical Care Nursing, Enterostomal and Wound Care Nursing, Entrepreneurial Nursing, Gerontology Nursing, Hospice/Palliative Nursing, Nephrology Nursing, Neurologic Nursing, Nursing Informatics, Oncology Nursing, Orthopedic Nursing, and Telehealth Nursing (Commissioner on Higher Education, 2017).

# Context

The DNP student worked in collaboration with another DNP student utilizing the same tool to ask permission to use and translate the Environmental Health and Safety Assessment Tool by the original creator (Appendix E). Once permission was attained, the DNP student translated the tool into the Tagalog language (Appendix F, G).

Prior to implementation, the DNP student coordinated and collaborated with the Dean of the College of Nursing on the logistics of the project. This project included face-to-face meeting with 41 students who participated; 25 BSN students and 16 MAN students. This took place on a Saturday, when both undergraduate and graduate students were on campus. The Dean of the College of Nursing prepared a special two-hour timeslot for all students to attend the educational workshop. The DNP student was available after the workshop and onsite the following day to answer any questions or concerns that the students had.

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# **Key Stakeholders**

The stakeholders identified in this DNP project were the nursing students, the patients, the Filipino community, the dean of the college of nursing, and the local hospitals and clinics. The DNP student contacted the dean of the college of nursing to propose the aim, objectives, and timeline of the project. Subsequently, a memorandum of agreement (MOU) was signed between the University of San Francisco (USF) and the project site, along with a letter of approval (Appendix H). Permissions to travel, along with secure liability and authority to conduct this project with respect to the Graduate Studies program at USF was obtained (Appendix I).

# **Communication Matrix**

A communication matrix addresses the kind of information that is communicated, who it is communicated to, how often it is communicated, and the method of communication that is being used (Appendix J). Some of the most important elements that need to be addressed in this regard include project coordination and planning, project status, project changes, milestone reports, and variances.

Communication transpired between the project manager and the committee chair, committee members, and on-site project manager. This allowed all members of the project team to be updated accordingly, and it made provisions for more organized and timely responses.

# **GANTT Chart**

A GANTT chart was created to provide a timeline of the events for the project from beginning to end (Appendix K). The aforementioned chart starts with a literature review, which determined the need for the project. After the topic was approved, the researcher formed a project team. Starting from December 2017, the researcher started communicating with the stakeholders in order to share the data and the project's proposal. Subsequently, the project manager conducted educational sessions for the nursing students regarding the use of the environmental risk assessment. The toolkit was implemented by the start of 2018. Moreover, the project metrics were implemented, and data collection was obtained eight weeks post implementation. The written portion of the DNP project began in February 2018, and the project presentation and dissemination of the results took place shortly thereafter.

#### **SWOT** Analysis

A Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT) analysis was conducted to identify the internal and external aspects that might affect the implementation of the environmental health risk assessment toolkit (Appendix L). This provides the project manager with the opportunity to assess potential outcomes that could generate positive or negative results.

Strengths of this project include the need for environmental health education in the Philippines based on the literature review and gap analysis. This need is also evident in the National Environmental Health Action Plan, a collaborative initiative between the WHO and the Philippines. Another strength is the support of site stakeholders and increased transfer of culturally sensitive knowledge among nursing students and clinical patients. With a university site that has a high number of Filipino nursing students, greater opportunities pertaining to patient education are present, without concern for language or cultural barriers. Moreover, the project manager speaks the language of the region, and is familiar with the environment.

The possible weaknesses of this project include limited time, resources, and budget. These limitations can affect the opportunities pertaining to its implementation. A single educational session was offered to nursing students owing to such constraints. Factors such as time and resources can also affect the quality and location of the educational sessions. These potential weaknesses might not be ideal for an effective learning environment.

The opportunities of this project include increasing culturally sensitive care, decreasing morbidity and mortality, promoting health education, and fostering disease prevention. By educating future healthcare providers, communication with patients is improved, patient care is enhanced. This grants healthcare providers the opportunity to bridge the gap between the culture of medicine and the gap between the culture of medicine and patients' value systems is bridged.

The potential threats of this project include issues pertaining to traveling, lack of support from stakeholders, lack of participants, limited time, misconceptions about the toolkit, and language or cultural barriers. Such barriers can lead to the misuse of the screening tool. Some nursing students and professors could hold a different opinion regarding the benefits of the environmental health risk assessment toolkit.

#### **Budget**

The overall budget for this project was calculated as direct and indirect expenses (Appendix M). Direct expenses included project materials, modes of travel, and the refreshments provided during the educational sessions. The total cost for out-of-pocket expenses was \$1,620. This included airfare, parking, and transportation to and from the project site for the two separate sessions. The project materials cost approximately \$100 in total, which included handouts, surveys, folders, and writing instruments. In-service refreshments for the two sessions were approximately \$200, or \$100 per day, whereas the indirect expenses included time and unanticipated events. Moreover, the time and remuneration of the DNP student was also included in the indirect expenses. An additional \$500 was saved for unanticipated events, which brings the cost of the indirect expenses to \$6,575 and the total budget to \$8,195. Environmental health toxins are associated with some of the top chronic conditions, such as cardiovascular disease, asthma, COPD, and cancer. According to the American Public Health Association (APHA) (2012), healthcare costs for cardiovascular conditions is approximately \$107 billion, respiratory conditions is around \$64 billion, and cancer is nearly \$82 billion annually (Appendix M). Additionally, these chronic conditions result in lost productivity costs ranging anywhere from \$95 billion to \$182 billion annually (Appendix M). Lost productivity has a significant effect on the economy, in conjunction with lower productivity levels and higher mortality risk among workers. Public health interventions that target chronic conditions can decrease injury, diseases, complications, and death, which will lead to a healthier community, workplace wellness, and improved quality of life (APHA, 2012).

Several factors were considered in calculating the overall benefit of this project. For this particular cost-benefit analysis, information will be based on the prevention of primary outpatient hospital visits related to asthma. Based on the limitations discussed, the projected goal of decreasing primary outpatient hospital visits related to asthma for the first year post implementation of the project is at least 25%. The cost of a primary outpatient visit by hospital level in the Philippines is roughly \$14.63 United States dollars (USD) (WHO, 2005). The average cost of asthma per case in the Philippines is \$141 per visit and the average number of cases per month is 67 (Tsilaajav, 2009). This equals roughly 804 reported cases of asthma per year, yielding \$113,364 in primary outpatient hospital costs. The projected cost to implement this project is \$2,660 in one educational session and \$5,320 in one year, when implemented twice. Implementing the educational session a second time ensures that incoming nursing students receive the same education and training and have the toolkit available as a resource during their clinical practicum or workplaces. For this specific cost-benefit analysis, increasing education and

awareness of environmental health risks and promoting environmental health screening in the Filipino community can help decrease emergency outpatient hospital visits. This places the costbenefit ratio at 1.7 for the first year, and a result greater than or equal to 1.0 suggests a positive return.

#### Interventions

**Educational Phase.** The educational phase was led by the DNP student and consisted of three parts. The first part included a PowerPoint presentation on environmental health, risks associated with environmental hazards, application to the Filipino population, and the importance and outcomes of appropriate screening (Appendix D). The 45-minute presentation was conducted in English and took place in one classroom hall. A total of 25 BSN students and 16 graduate students were present. All of the students were engaged and at least half of the BSN and MAN students actively participated by answering questions and/or providing comments.

The second part of the educational phase included simulation using hands on training for tool practice proficiency. The nursing students and MAN students incorporated the information that they learned from the PowerPoint presentation and practiced utilizing the screening tool on each other. They paired up with the student sitting next to them and analyzed the case study utilizing the screening tool for practice, with the aim of developing comfort and proficiency with use of the tool (Appendix O).

Finally, the last part of the educational phase was for wrap-up and debriefing. The nursing students and graduate students were encouraged to share any feedback they had pertaining to their experience during the educational workshop. A final post-educational workshop survey was provided to determine what the students learned, how the sessions impacted them, how likely they are to use what they learned in their practice, and any other

comments they might have regarding their experience (Appendix Q). Feedback was collected to finalize the plan for the implementation of the information provided into clinical practice.

**Delivery of Screening into Practice Phase.** The third phase of this project was designed to gain further insight into the value of this project, but will not be directly measured in the outcomes for the immediate proposed goal. After receiving education and knowledge on environmental health and practicing the use of the tool, students were advised to take the tool to practice at their various sites. These sites included both hospital and clinic settings. For the next eight weeks, 16 MAN students attempted to use or reference the screening tool during their clinical rotations and/or in their work sites. On a weekly basis, the DNP student contacted the dean of the college of nursing to collect and address any questions or feedback that the students had. Eight weeks post implementation of the educational project, an online survey via Survey Monkey was administered to the MAN students to assess usability and feasibility and to gather any additional data and feedback of the toolkit (Appendix R).

#### **Method of Evaluation**

Qualitative methods of analyzing data were used during the educational phase and implementation into practice phase of this project. Analysis involved a pre/post-test questionnaire, post simulation survey, post-educational workshop survey, and tool usability survey. The Likert scale and interval rating scale provided valuable data and feedback regarding the educational training session and usability and feasibility of the toolkit.

The desired outcomes for this project were:

1. To increase awareness of environmental health risks to 100% of nursing students in the local region, as evidenced by their personal readiness survey scores that state they

are either "likely" or "extremely likely" to identify hazardous exposures in the home and environment that can lead to adverse health effects.

- 2. To increase the nursing students' personal knowledge related to environmental health risks, trends, screening tools, and current research, as evidenced by a minimum score of 80% on the post-test.
- 3. To prepare 100% of the participating nursing students to screen patients for environmental health risks using the TEHSAT tool, as evidence by their personal readiness survey score that shows their likeliness to use the tool and provide patient education during practice.

**Pre/Post-Test.** A pre-test and post-test questionnaire was given before and after the PowerPoint presentation (Appendix N). The pre/post-test was developed by the DNP student. It included one true or false question and four multiple choice questions. The content of the pre/post-test correlated with both factual and key environmental health information presented in the PowerPoint. Here, the DNP student aims to achieve at least 80% knowledge attainment. Results of the pre-test and post-test were evaluated using Microsoft Excel. The answers were tallied and a percentage was calculated based on the number of students that participated. All 25 BSN students and 16 MAN students participated in taking both the pre-test and post-test, and no questions were left unanswered.

**Post-Simulation Survey.** The post-simulation survey was composed of two parts (Appendix P). The first part consisted of a single question assessing the overall opinion of the case study simulation using an interval rating scale. The second part consisted of a series of statements related to the case study. Each statement was assessed using a Likert Scale. The statements helped determine the following:

- If the students understood the purpose and objectives of the case study
- If the scenario presented a real-life situation
- If the students were able to incorporate what the learned from the PowerPoint presentation into the case study
- If the toolkit was easy to use and understand
- If they learned from the case study
- If the exercise helped them identify their strengths and weaknesses
- If they felt comfortable educating their patients and/or colleagues on the hazardous effects of environmental exposures to human health.

**Post-Educational Workshop Survey.** The post-educational survey was given to the students at the very end of the workshop (Appendix Q). The first question in this survey assessed the nursing students' overall opinion of the educational session using an interval rating scale. The second question consisted of a series of statements related to the case study simulation. Each statement was also evaluated using an interval rating scale. This helped to assess whether students were able to recognize sources of hazardous exposure, identify links between toxic exposure and adverse health effects, and educate their patients and/or colleagues on environmental risks and exposures. The following three questions were open ended questions regarding what the students liked most about the educational workshop, what they liked least about the educational workshop, and what suggestions they had to help improve the educational workshop. These responses help the DNP student recognize what aspects of the workshop worked and what areas might need more improvement. The responses that the students gave were analyzed in themes using word clouds. The sixth question in this survey assessed the overall content of the educational workshop using a Likert Scale. This gives the DNP student an

idea whether the content was too advanced, too basic, or just right. Finally, the last question in this survey was used to determine whether or not the students thought the information and materials presented were free from bias.

**Tool Usability Survey.** The tool usability survey was administered to the students online using Survey Monkey (Appendix R). The first question determined what setting the graduate student works in. This is useful in analyzing what type of patient population was screened during the implementation into practice phase. The second question quantified how many times the MAN student used or referenced the toolkit. This determined the usability of the screening tool during practice. The following four questions that were asked in this survey assessed the feasibility of the toolkit using a Likert Scale. Students evaluated their comfort level and likeliness to use or reference the toolkit. The last three questions in this survey were open ended questions regarding what the students liked most about the toolkit, what they liked least about the toolkit, and what suggestions they had to help improve the toolkit. These responses help the DNP student recognize whether the toolkit was valuable and if anything needed to be changed. The responses that the students gave were analyzed again in themes using word clouds.

#### Analysis

Data obtained was grouped together into a chart based on the test, survey, and type of question. All answers provided from each student were plotted into a chart. Through Excel, the pre/post-test was analyzed using bar graphs to illustrate improvement in overall scores after the educational presentation. Together, pie charts and bar graphs were used to show the rating the students gave for questions related to the post-simulation and post-education workshop surveys. This was depicted in percentage form.

To analyze the themes that rose from the students' feedback, an online word cloud generator developed by Jason Davies was utilized. Words that had larger fonts in the word cloud depicted responses that appeared more often. This provided a better visualization of the participants' most common feedback responses.

### **Ethical Considerations**

A statement of the non-research determination was submitted and approved by the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) committee (Appendix S). Subsequently, a memorandum of understand (MOU) was signed between the University of San Francisco and Lyceum Northwestern University. All the nursing students included in this study participated voluntarily. No identifying information was collected from the graduate students who participated in the practice phase. Furthermore, the online surveys were strictly anonymous, and the participants were allowed to withdraw from the project at any point in time.

This project promotes the provisions of the American Nurses Association (ANA) Code of Ethics surrounding beneficence, patient advocacy, safety, and health promotion. As stated in the ANA Code (2015), "The nurse practices with compassion and respect for the inherent dignity, worth, and unique attributes of every person." This promotes a holistic approach to healthcare and supports the framework of this project. The nursing students and Master's prepared students also practice patient advocacy through their screenings and assessments. It provides them with the opportunity to promote health and prevent disease, while educating the community about environmental health safety and well-being.

#### **Section III: Results**

**Pre/Post-Test.** Pre-test and post-test results depict significant knowledge attainment. Data derived from the results demonstrated that an average of 79% of the students were able to gain a better understanding of environmental health principles after participating in the educational sessions (Appendix T). Altogether, 25 BSN students and 16 MAN students took both the pre-test and the post-test. All of the questions were answered.

**Post Simulation.** After the simulation session, 25 BSN students and 16 MAN students filled out a survey. Results show that 2.33% of the students rated the case study as good, whereas 34.88% rated it to be very good, and 62.79% marked it as excellent (Appendix U). The following results represent the total percentage of students who agreed and strongly agreed to the post-simulation survey questions:

- 1. 100% of the students clearly understood the purpose and objectives of the case study exercise.
- 2. 95.35% thought that the scenario presented a real-life situation.
- 95.35% were able to incorporate what they had learned during the educational session into the case study exercise.
- 4. 100% of the students found that the toolkit was easy to use and understand.
- 5. 97.67% felt that they had learned a lot from the case study.
- 6. 88.37% stated that the case study helped them identify their strengths and weaknesses.
- 7. 93.02% feel comfortable educating their patients and/or colleagues regarding the hazardous effects of environmental exposures to human health, after attending the educational workshops.

**Post-Educational Workshop Survey.** Post-educational surveys were provided at the end of the workshop. Overall, 41.9% of the nursing students thought that the session was very good, whereas 58.1% thought that it was excellent (Appendix V). When evaluating the educational

objectives, the students were either likely or extremely likely to be capable of identifying potential sources of hazardous exposure in patients' home and environment, in addition to identifying the links between toxic exposure and adverse health effects and educating patients and/or colleagues about environmental risks and exposures. Furthermore, 72.1% of the students felt that the content material was just right, while 23.3% found it to be advanced, and 4.7% thought it was too advanced. All of the students agreed that the information and material presented was free from commercial bias (Appendix V).

It is important to note that word clouds were used to portray the qualitative responses obtained regarding the educational workshop. "Educational" and "informative" were the top two themes that were used to describe what the students liked the most about the workshop, whereas "none" and "limited time" were the top two themes used to describe what the students liked the least. When asked how the workshop might be improved, the main themes that emerged were: "None," "more examples," and "more visuals" (Appendix V).

**Tool Usability Survey.** After the training, students were encouraged to use the tool in practice and an online survey was conducted to collect feedback pertaining to usability in various clinical settings. Sixteen graduate nursing students participated in the delivery of screening into practice phase. The results revealed that 93.8% of the participants work in a hospital setting, while 6.3% work in a clinic. Out of the 16 participants, 12.5% used or referenced the toolkit in their workplace one to two times, 12.5% did so three to five times, and 56.3% made use of it more than five times. All of the participants agreed that the toolkit was easy to use and understand; they also reported that it served as a guide during their patient assessments. Additionally, all of them felt comfortable when providing patient education concerning environmental health risk and are likely to refer to the toolkit again in the future. "Useful," "easy

to understand," and "designed for locals" were the top three responses that the students provided when asked about what liked the most about the toolkit. In addition, when the participants were asked what they liked the least about the toolkit and which areas might require improvement, all of them provided the response "none" (Appendix W).

#### Section IV: Discussion

## **Summary**

This DNP project was delivered over ten weeks, with two weeks dedicated for teaching and being onsite, and eight weeks for the delivery of screening into practice and final evaluation. Overall, a review of the results manifested positive findings, consistent with the goals of this project. After the conclusion of the educational sessions, 79% of the nursing students were able to expand their knowledge related to environmental health risks. This is close to the project aim of 80%. A majority of the students felt that the content of the educational sessional was extremely helpful and useful for their career. The case study gave the students an opportunity to incorporate the environmental health objectives that they learned and employ the toolkit in a simulated situation. At least 60% of the nursing students felt readily equipped to screen their patients for environmental health risk during practice. This number exceeded the project aim of 50%.

It is a known fact that issues related to environmental health are not incorporated adequately in nursing curriculums. In light of this, this project has helped to improve the knowledge and awareness concerning environmental issues in one nursing school in the Philippines. Educating the healthcare providers of the future promotes and empowers the youth to become health educators and leaders within their community.

In addition to meeting the project aims, this project has also produced secondary

outcomes. The dean of the College of Nursing has expressed interest in continuing this project as part of the future curriculum. Although the core materials and resources are already produced, incorporation of this project will still require some time, planning, collaboration, and coordination with the school. Overall, incorporation of this project will increase awareness of environmental health risks in patients through their healthcare providers. Additionally, this will provide nurses and other healthcare providers with a readily available tool that they can reference and use throughout their careers.

#### Interpretation

This quality improvement project was conducted to increase the knowledge with regard to environmental health risks in the Filipino population by incorporating more education pertaining to environmental health into the school curriculum and training both undergraduate and graduate nursing students to conduct environmental health screenings for their patients. Overall, the 16 graduate students who participated in the inclusion of the practice phase supported the use of the toolkit. During the initial eight weeks of the screening, at least half of the participants were able to use or reference the toolkit more than five times in their workplace. Since a majority of these students work in a hospital setting, the work flow may be substantial, thereby limiting the amount of time spent in screening and patient education. However, the feedback from the participants suggested that they found the toolkit is useful and in-keeping with the cultural sensitivities of the Filipino population. Altogether, the students found the toolkit to be feasible, agreeing that it was a good reference to have accessible at hand. One training session was sufficient enough to produce positive outcomes overall. Additional sessions would have been beneficial as well.

## Limitations

Given that this project has aims to reach an international audience and site, there were several limitations. The first limitation to the implementation of the project is the budget. This may affect the number of nursing students trained, the extent of the training materials, and the amount of time spent in training. With the availability of more resources and sources of funding in the future, the researcher may be able to reach out to other students studying at other universities in the Philippines and other developing countries, an initiative that could lead to better project outcomes.

The second limitation is the timeline for delivery. While the total project spanned across ten weeks, where two weeks are dedicated to teaching and being onsite, and eight weeks for data collection, not being on site as a project manager during the entire time may throw the credibility of the results into question. More time for training and educational sessions is beneficial and can lead to higher levels of knowledge attainment and comfort.

The state of clinical practice in the Philippines presents as an overall limitation. Although the nursing students may understand and support the use of the toolkit, they may not have the time to implement it during clinical and/or work rotations due to the busy workflow, high patient volume, and lack of established protocols and/or patient cooperation. More firmly established protocols for initiation of the toolkit into practice and evaluation of this in a more scheduled format would allow for better use of the tool.

Finally, language and cultural barriers are another limitation. Although all of the students understood and knew how to speak English, there were ten international students who came from several different countries. The international students were not fluent in Tagalog and may have experienced difficultly with communication with any of their Filipino patients, along with cultural differences.

#### Conclusion

Improving awareness with regard to environmental exposures promotes health, prevents injury and disease, and enhances the quality of life (Healthy People 2020, 2017). An educationalbased program is one way to spread health-related information to the community. Since healthcare providers are the frontline to providing education to the patient and combating health disparities, it is important that the healthcare providers of the future possess proper education. Significant improvements in the health literacy of marginal populations can be achieved through the use of culturally sensitive screening tools. As a healthcare provider, it is important to become aware of the social determinants of health that impact patients. When working with the minority or rural populations, healthcare providers have the opportunity to employ the principles of cultural stewardship for the prevention of diseases and the promotion of health.

Although many screening toolkits exist and are used in healthcare settings, little attention is paid to the screening and education concerning environmental exposures as part of routine health promotion. After the implementation of an educational workshop in a semirural city of a developing country, the results prove an increased knowledge pertaining to environmental health and a willingness to extend that knowledge to patients and practice environments. Nursing students with a Master's degree were able to use and reference the toolkit by providing screening and education to their patients at their workplaces. Overall, both undergraduate and graduate students found the educational session and toolkit to be beneficial. The researcher is of the opinion that all of the students are likely to use and reference the toolkit throughout their nursing careers. The best way to disseminate the toolkit is to have the educational module incorporated into the school curriculum. This can be conducted through the use of online modules, PowerPoint presentations, and Webinars. Educating the student studying in other schools, universities, or arranging outreach programs is another way to reach out and spread awareness related to environmental health risks to the community.

# **Section V: Other Information**

# Funding

The funding for this project was through personal savings and financial assistance from direct family members. This included monetary travel support from the direct family members living in the United States; and food, lodging, and local transportation assistance from the family members in the Philippines. There are no other financial disclosures related to this project.

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# Appendices

# Appendix A: Evidence Table

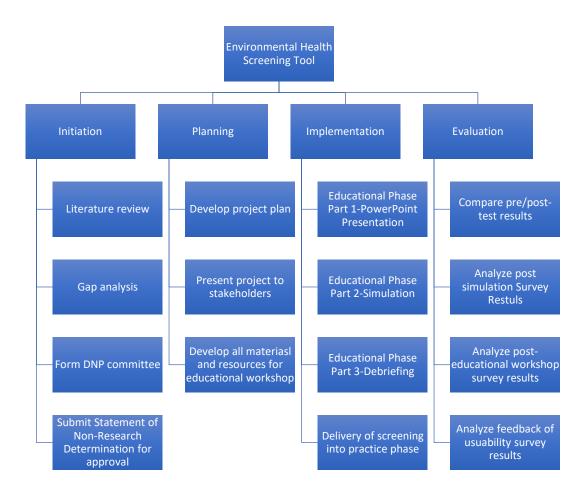
Author, Date, Title	Purpose	Sample/Methods	Findings/Conclusions	Evidence Level
Woodruff T., Zota A., & Schwartz J. (2011). Environmental chemicals in pregnant women in the United States.	Analyzed biomonitoring data from the National Health and Nutritional Examination Survey (NHANES) to characterize both individual and multiple chemical exposures in U.S. pregnant women.	Analyzed data for 163 chemical analytes in 12 chemical classes for subsamples of 268 pregnant women from NHANES 2003–2004, a nationally representative sample of the U.S. population.	Pregnant women in the U.S. are exposed to multiple chemicals. Further efforts are warranted to understand sources of exposure and implications for policy making.	2A
Balanay, J., & Lungu, C. (2009). Exposure of jeepney drivers in Manila, Philippines to selected volatile organic compounds (VOCs)	The objective of this study was to assess the occupational exposure of jeepney drivers to selected volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in Manila, Philippines.	Personal sampling was conducted on 15 jeepney drivers. Area sampling was conducted to determine the background VOC concentration in Manila as compared to that in a rural area. Both personal and area samples were collected for 5 working days. Samples were obtained using diffusive samplers and were analyzed for 6 VOCs	The personal samples had significantly higher (p<0.05) concentrations for all selected VOCs than the urban area samples. Among the area samples, the urban concentrations of benzene and toluene were significantly higher (p<0.05) than the rural concentrations. The personal exposures for all the target VOCs were not significantly different among the jeepney drivers.	28

Riddell, T., Solon, O., Quimbo, S. Tan, C., Butrick, E., & Peabody, J. (2007). Elevated blood-lead levels among children living in the rural Philippines.	To describes the prevalence of lead poisoning among children living in a rural area that covers about one third of the Philippines. Researchers explore the correlations of lead toxicity in this population and describe an environmental investigation to characterize an unexpectedly common toxic health hazard.	Researchers sampled a population of children from the Visayas region in the central Philippines, covering approximately one third of the country's geographical area. From December 2003 to September 2004, the survey collected blood lead levels (BLL) together with demographic, socioeconomic and child health data points. Supplemental lead-testing among a sub-sample of the most exposed children assessed the sources of environmental lead exposure.	Elevated BLL are common among children in the Visayas, and may signify an under- recognized threat to children living in rural areas of other developing nations. This setting has varied environmental sources of lead. Observed correlates of BLL may be of clinical, environmental and public health utility to identify and mitigate the consequences of lead toxicity.	2B
Villeneuve, J., Cattini, C., Bajet, C., Navarro- Calingacion, M., & Carvalho, F. (2010). PCBs in sediments and oysters of Manila Bay, the Philippines.	This survey provided insight into the contamination of the bay and investigated contaminants' temporal trends and assisted in planning for future studies.	Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) were analyzed in sediment and oyster samples from coastal sites inside Manila Bay. Concentrations for 13 individual PCB congeners and total PCBs were reported herein.	A significant correlation (p 5 0.01) was found between SPCB concentrations in oysters and in sediments. Further environmental surveillance is recommended in order to prevent public health risks that may be posed by these chemicals.	2A

# Appendix A: Evidence Table (cont.)

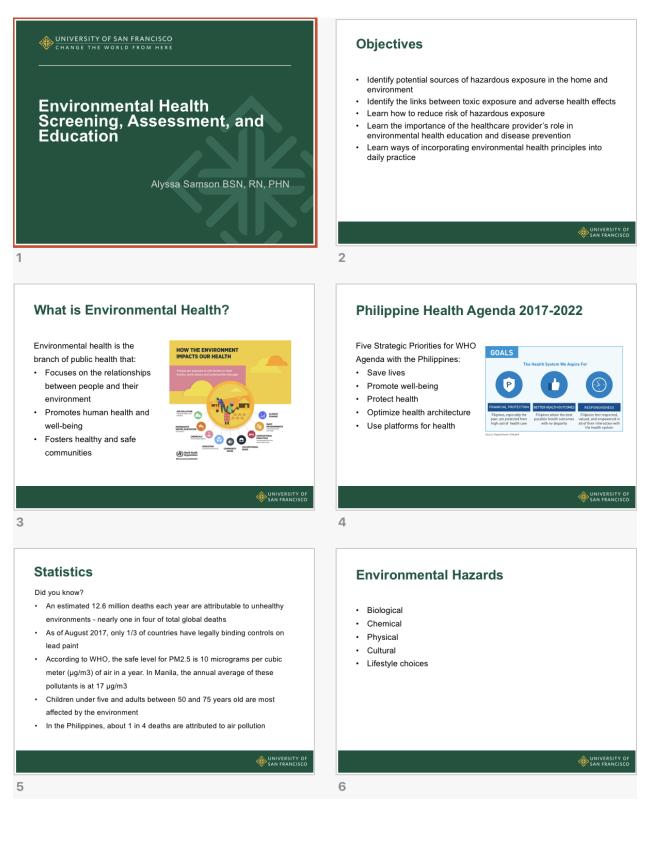
Current State	Action Steps	Goals
-Need for supportive	-Define the gap and scope of	-Enhance the understanding
interventions for the	the problem	of environmental health risks
Philippine National	-Conduct literature review	impacting and affecting
Environmental Health Action	-Produce educational	patients in the Philippines by
Plan (NEHAP) on	workshop for nursing	providing culturally sensitive
environmental health issues,	students and advanced	care and education to the
safety, and education,	practice nursing students in	Filipino community and
especially in the academe	academe level	implementing screening and
level	-Provide environmental	assessment techniques to the
-Limited amount of time and	health screening tool and	future healthcare providers
education dedicated to topics	resources for reference and	-Incorporate project into
concerning environmental	use	school curriculum
health		
-Little to no attention given to		
screening and education with		
respect to environmental		
exposures		

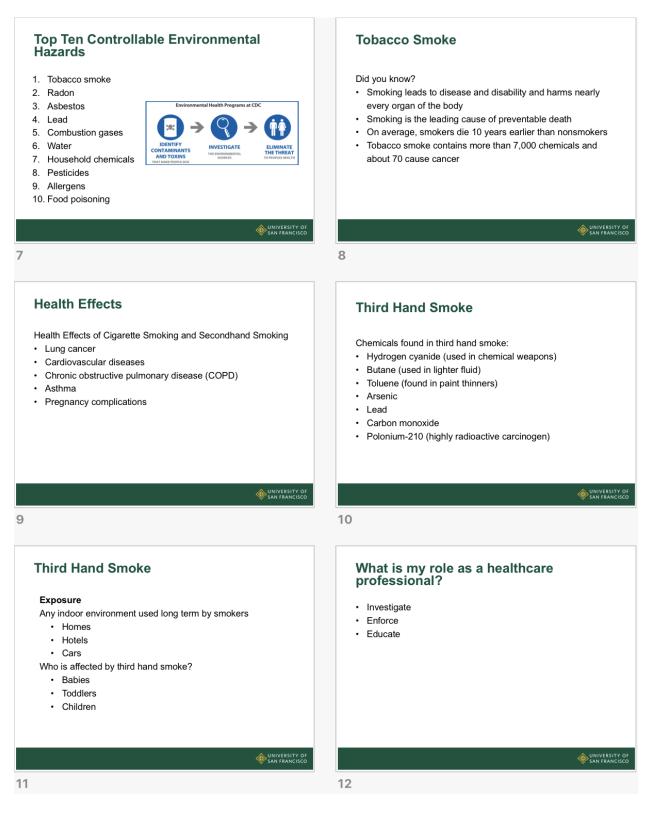
# Appendix B: Gap Analysis

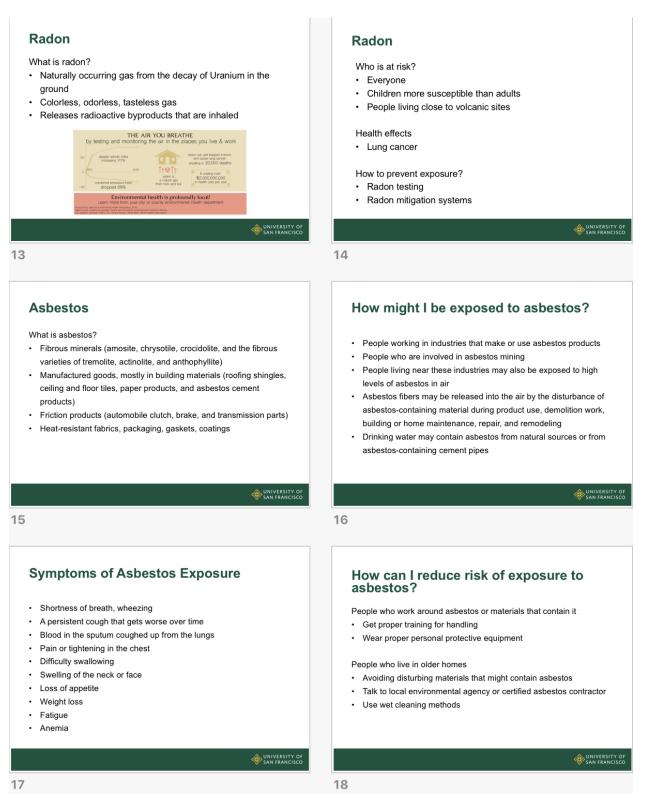


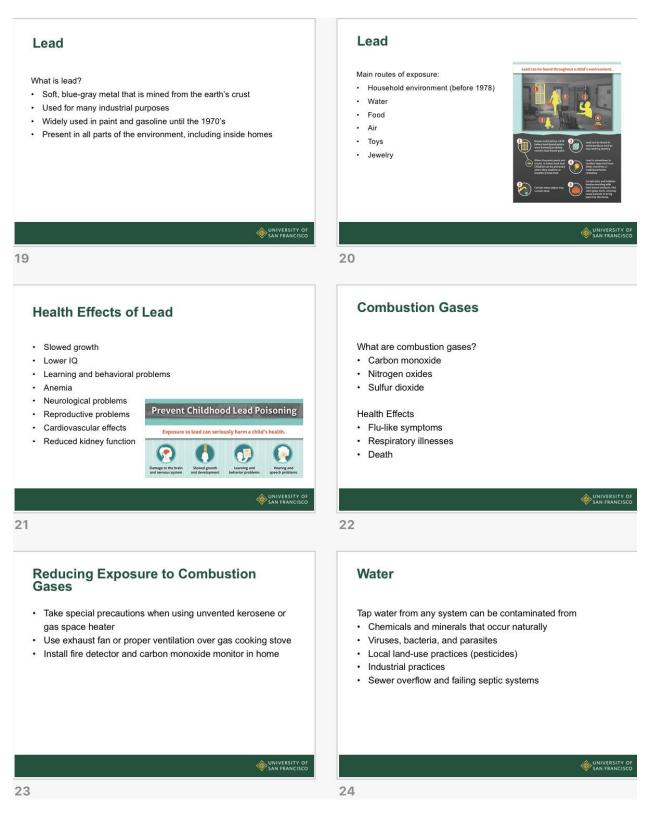
## **Appendix C: Work Breakdown Structure**

## **Appendix D: PowerPoint Slides**

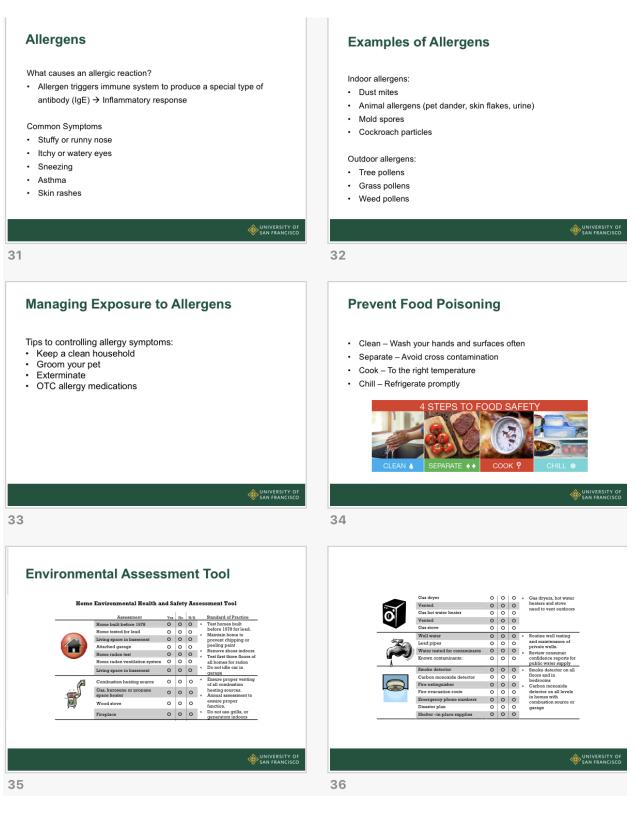


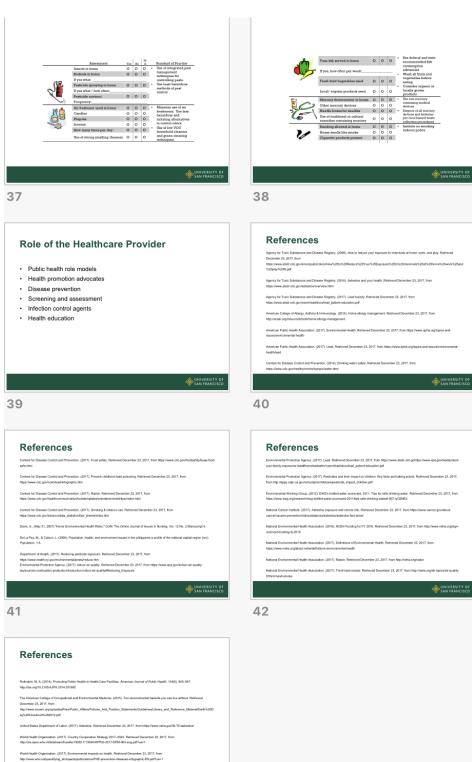












## **Appendix E: Permission to Use Tool**

From: "Davis, Allison" Subject: Re: Home Environmental Health and Safety Assessment Tool Date: October 5, 2017 at 1:57:34 PM PDT To: Vinai Decena

Hi Vinai Good to hear! yes, no problem! Dr Davis

From: Vinai Decena Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 12:43 PM To: Subject: Home Environmental Health and Safety Assessment Tool

Hi Dr. Davis,

I am currently a doctorate student at the University of San Francisco. I am working on completing my DNP project on educating healthcare providers in Stanislaus County, California on environmental health risk. If possible could I get your permission to translate your Home Environmental Health and Safety Assessment Tool into another language. My DNP project is focused on the Asian American Islander population. I would be translating the screening tool in Lao, Punjabi, and Tagalog.

Regards,

Vinai Decena RN, MSN, CNL, PHN

# Appendix F: Environmental Health and Safety Assessment Tool (EHSAT)

Site			
Dat	e		
RN			

## Home Environmental Health and Safety Assessment Tool

	Assessment	Yes	No	N/A		Standard of Practice
	Home built before 1978	0	0	0		Test homes built before 1978 for lead.
	Home tested for lead	0	0	0		Maintain home to
	Living space in basement	0	0	0		prevent chipping or
	Attached garage	0	0	0		peeling paint Remove shoes indoors
	Home radon test	0	0	0		Test first three floors of
	Home radon ventilation system	0	0	0	_	all homes for radon
	Living space in basement	0	0	0		Do not idle car in garage
Ð	Combustion heating source	0	ο	ο		Ensure proper venting of all combustion
in the second se	Gas, kerosene or propane space heater	0	0	0		heating sources. Annual assessment to
	Wood stove	0	0	ο		ensure proper function.
	Fireplace	0	0	0		Do not use grills, or generators indoors
	Gas dryer	0	0	0		Gas dryers, hot water
	Vented	0	0	0		heaters and stove need to vent outdoors
	Gas hot water heater	0	0	0		
	Vented	0	0	0		
	Gas stove	0	0	0		
	Well water	0	0	0		Routine well testing
T A	Lead pipes	0	0	0		and maintenance of private wells.
	Water tested for contaminants	0	0	0	п	Review consumer
	Known contaminants:	0	0	0		confidence reports for public water supply
<u>_</u>	Smoke detector	0	0	0		Smoke detector on all
	Carbon monoxide detector	0	0	0		floors and in bedrooms
	Fire extinguisher	0	0	0		Carbon monoxide
	Fire evacuation route	0	0	0		detector on all levels
Trans	Emergency phone numbers	0	0	0		in homes with combustion source or
	Disaster plan	0	0	0		garage
	Shelter –in-place supplies	0	0	0		

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University of Maryland, Environmental Health Education Center 3/07

	Assessment	Yes	No	N/ A		Standard of Practice
	Insects in home	0	0	0		Use of integrated pest
	Rodents in home	0	0	0		management techniques for
	If yes what:				-	controlling pests.
C Para	Pesticide spraying in home	0	0	0		Use least hazardous
	If yes what / how often:					methods of pest control
	Pesticide contract	0	0	0		
	Frequency:					
<b>A</b>	Air freshener used in home	0	0	0		Minimize use of air
SV -	Candles	0	0	0		fresheners. Use less hazardous and
	Plug-ins	0	0	0		irritating alternatives
	Incense	0	0	0	_	to control odors.
2 Million	How many times per day:	0	0	0		Use of low VOC household cleaners
	Use of strong smelling cleaners	0	0	0		and green cleaning techniques.
	Tuna fish served in home	0	0	0		See federal and state recommended fish consumption
	If yes, how often per week:					advisories Wash all fruits and
J. Market	Fresh fruit/vegetables used	0	0	0		vegetables before eating Consider organic or
	Local/ organic products used	0	0	0		locally grown products
	Mercury thermometer in house	0	0	0		Use non-mercury containing medical
E ~ 3	Other mercury devices	0	0	0	_	devices
and the second	Needle boxes for needles	0	0	0		Dispose of all mercury
	Use of traditional or cultural remedies containing mercury	0	0	0		devices and batteries per local hazard waste collection procedures
	Smoking allowed in home	0	0	0		Institute no smoking
	House smells like smoke	0	0	0	_	indoors policy
	Cigarette products present	0	0	0		

# Appendix F: Environmental Health and Safety Assessment Tool (EHSAT) (cont.)

# Appendix G: Tagalog Environmental Health and Safety Assessment Tool (TEHSAT)

Site Date RN	
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# Paraan para Suriin ang Kalusugan at Kaligtasan ng Kabahayan

			1			-
	Paraan ng Pagsusuri		Hindi			Pamantayan
	Bahay itinayo bago ang taong1978	0	0	0	•	Suriin ang bahay na itinayo bago ang taong 1978 para sa lead
	Bahay nasuri para sa materyal na Lead	0	0	0	•	Panatiliin ang bahay para maiwasan ang pagtanggal ng pintura
	Mayroong tirahan sa ilalim ng bahay (basement)	0	0	0		
	Mayroong garahe sa bahay	0	0	0		
	Mayroong instrumento para suriin ang materyal na Radon sa bahay	0	0	0	•	Tangalin ang sapatos pagpasok ng bahay Suriin ang unang tatlong palapag ng bahay para sa materyal
						na Radon
	Bentilasyon sa bahay para sa materyal na Radon	0	0	0	•	Huwag iwan nakaandar ang kotse sa garahe
	Mayroong kagamitan na pinagmumulan ng init at apoy	0	0	0	•	Panatiliin ang maayos na bentilasyon ng mga
	Gas, kerosene o heater na gamit ang kerosene	0	ο	0	•	pinagmumulan ng init at apoy sa bahay Taunang pagsusuri ng kagamitan na pinagmumulan ng init at apoy para masigurado ang maayos na operasyon
	Kalan na gamit ang kahoy	0	0	0	•	Huwag gumamit ng
	Tsiminea	0	0	0		ihawan at generator sa loob ng bahay
O	Gas dryer	0	0	0	•	Kailangan mayroong bentilasyon papalabas sa bahay sa mga gamit tulad ng Gas dryers, pampainit ng tubig at kalan
V	Bentilasyon para sa Gas dryer	0	0	0		
	Gas hot water heater	0	0	0		

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	Bentilasyon para sa heater	0	0	0		
	Gas stove	0	0	0		
	Tubig mula sa balon	0	0	0	•	Madalas na inspeksyon
	Tubo gawa sa materyal na Lead	0	0	0		ng balon
	Nasuri para sa mga bagay na nagpaparuming tubig	0	0	0	•	Pagsusuri ng mga ulat at balita tungkol sa
(G	Kilalang dulot ng dumi sa tubig:	0	0	0		pinagmumulan ng tubig
	Smoke detektor	0	0	0	•	Smoke detektor sa
	Carbon monoxide detektor	0	0	0		lahat ng kwarto at
	Fire extinguisher (maliban sa tubig)	0	0	0	•	palapag ng bahay Carbon monoxide
- MAN	Maasahan na daan papalabas ng bahay sa panahon ng sunog	0	0	0		detektor sa lahat ng palapag ng bahay na
	Lista ng mga numero na matatawagan sa panahon ng kalamidad	0	0	0		maaring pagmulan ng sunog at sa garahe ng bahay
	Plano sa paghahanda sa panahon ng kalamidad	0	0	0		
	Emergency Supply para sa panahon ng kalamidad	0	0	0		
	Insekto sa loog ng bahay	0	0	0	•	Paggamit ng iba't ibang
1 Sto	Peste sa loob ng bahay	0	0	0		paraan na pagpatay ng peste sa loob ng bahay
	Ilista ang mga peste sab bahay kung mayroon:					
	Pesticide spray sa bahay	0	0	0	•	Paggamit ng mga pampatay ng peste na mayroong pinakakaunting laman ng na bahay na peligroso sa tao
	Ilista ang mga pesticide spray sa bahay at kung gano kadalas mag spray:	0	0	0		
Fr 🦰	Mayroong air freshener sa bahay	0	0	0	•	Bawasan ang pagamit ng air fresheners. Gumamit ng mga air
	Kandila	0	0	0		freshener na hindi gaano katapang at makakairita sa katawan
	Di kuryente na air reshener	0	0	0		Gumamit ng mga
A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	llang beses sa isang araw gumagamit ng air freshener					panlinis ng bahay na mababa ang dami ng VOC
	Gumagamit ng matatapang na amoy na panlinis sa bahay	0	0	0		
	Kumakain ng isdang tuna	0	0	0	•	Alamin ang mga payo ng FDA tungkol sa

# Appendix G: Tagalog Environmental Health and Safety Assessment Tool (cont.)

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A	sa bahay					pagkain ng mga isda
	Kung oo, ilagay kung gaano kadalas:				•	Ugaliing hugasan ang prutas at gulay bago
	Kumakain ng sariwang prutas at gulay sa bahay	0	0	0		kainin
Sala	Lokal at hindi imported ang kinakain sa bahay	0	0	0		Subukang bumili ng mga local pagkain
	Mercury thermometer sa bahay	0	0	0	•	lwasan ang paggamit ng bagay na may laman na mercury
	Ibang gamit na mayroong mercury	0	0	0	•	Itapon sa tamang paraan ang mga gamit
	Kahon para sa karayom	0	0	0		na may laman na mercury tulad ng
	Gumagamit ng tradisyonal na medisina na mayroong mercury	0	0	0		baterya ayon sa rekomendasyon ng DENR
V	Pinahihintulutan manigarilyo sa loob ng bahay	0	0	0	•	lpagbawal ang paninigarilyo sa loob ng bahay
	Amoy sigarilyo sa loob ng bahay	0	0	0		
	Mayroong sigarilyo sa loob ng bahay	0	0	0		

Appendix G: Tagalog Environmental	Health and Safety Assessment Tool	(cont.)
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# **Appendix H: Letter of Support from Agency**

University of San Francisco School of Nursing and Health Professions 2130 Fulton Street, San Francisco, CA 94117

To Whom It May Concern:

Alyssa Samson has received permission and support to conduct her DNP project at Lyceum Northwestern University College of Nursing at Dagupan City, Pangasinan, Philippines. She will be working directly with the nursing students and the Dean of the College of Nursing throughout the course of her project.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Judith Manuel, RN, MAN, Ed.D. Dean, College of Nursing

# **Appendix I: Permission to Travel**

Allyn Nobles

@ 12/4/17 ☆ 🔸 🔹

to me 🖃

Dear Alyssa,

The Senior Vice Provost has approved your travel to the Philippines to conduct your doctoral project from Dec 28, 2017 - January 18, 2018.

Please heed the our travel advisory to the Philippines as provided by our travel assistance provider, International SOS, in the message below and attachments.

Information	Audience	When	Method of Communication
Project Coordination and Planning	DNP chair Onsite project manager	Weekly- Bi-weekly	Email/Meeting/Phone/Zoom
Project Status	DNP chair Onsite project manager	Weekly- Bi-weekly	Email/Meeting
Project Changes	DNP chair Onsite project manager	As needed	Email
Milestone report	DNP committee	Monthly	Email/Meeting
Variances/Problem resolution	DNP chair Onsite project manager	As needed	Email/Meeting

**Appendix J: Communication Matrix** 

# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCREENING TOOL

Proj	ect G	GAN	ГТ									
			2017						2018			
Task/Description	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	unſ	Jul
Initiation												
Complete literature review												
Gap analysis												
Form DNP committee												
Submit Statement of Non-Research Determination												
Planning												
Develop project plan												
Present project to stakeholders												
Develop educational materials and resources												
Implementation												
Educational Phase 1 – PowerPoint Presentation												
Educational Phase 2 – Simulation												
Educational Phase 3 – Debriefing												
Delivery of screening into practice phase												
Evaluation												
Analyze questionnaire and survey results												
Dissemination												
Complete written DNP project												
Prepare and deliver presentation to USF faculty												

# **Appendix K: Project GANTT**

<ul> <li><u>Strengths</u></li> <li>Support of national vision and strategic priorities for the collaboration of WHO with the Philippines</li> <li>Support of stakeholders</li> <li>Increased culturally sensitive knowledge among the medical staff and patients</li> <li>Culturally diverse project manager, speaks the language and is adept to the environment</li> <li>Readily available EBP tool</li> </ul>	<ul> <li><u>Weaknesses</u></li> <li>Limited time</li> <li>Limited resources</li> <li>Limited budget</li> <li>Lack of direct access to clinical sites and providers</li> </ul>
<ul> <li><u>Opportunities</u></li> <li>Increasing culturally sensitive care</li> <li>Decreased morbidity/mortality</li> <li>Promoting health education, preventing disease, and raising awareness</li> <li>Updating curriculum for nursing students in the Philippines</li> </ul>	<ul> <li><u>Threats</u></li> <li>Traveling issues of the project manager to project site</li> <li>Lack of support from stakeholders</li> <li>Lack of participants</li> <li>Misconceptions/misunderstanding of toolkit</li> <li>Language/cultural barriers</li> </ul>

# Appendix L: SWOT Analysis

Expenses						
Direct Expenses						
	Quantity	Unit Cost	<b>Total Cost</b>			
Resources						
Educational Material (i.e. handouts, surveys, folders, writing						
instruments)	25 people	\$4	\$100			
Travel						
Airfare	1 person	\$1,200	\$1,200			
Taxi	3 days	\$40	\$120			
Food						
In-service refreshments	2 days	\$100	\$200			
Indirect Expenses						
Unanticipated Events			\$500			
Time						
Project Manager	135 hours	\$45	\$6,075			
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES	\$1,620					
TOTAL INDIRECT EXPENSEs			\$6,575			
DIRECT + INDIRECT EXPENSE TOTAL			\$8,195			

## **Appendix M: Cost Benefit Analysis**

## **Cost Benefit Calculations**

- Hospital Cost (Primary Outpatient Visit by Hospital Level) = \$14.63 (WHO, 2005)
- Cost of asthma per case = 141/visit (Tsilaajav, 2009)
- Average asthma cases per month = 67 (Tsilaajav, 2009)
- Average asthma cases per year =  $67 \times 12 = 804$  asthma cases/year
- \$141 (cost of asthma for 1 person) x 804 (average asthma cases/year) = \$113,364
- Projected project cost (1 visit) = \$2,660
- Projected project cost for 1 year (2 visits) = \$5,320
- Estimated goal for year 1 of project initiation = Decrease primary outpatient hospital visits related to asthma by 25% (\$113,364 x 0.25 = \$28,341)

Cost Benefit Ratio				
Projected Costs for Primary Outpatient Hospital Visit Related to				
Asthma in one year	\$28,341			
Projected Costs for Project x2 sessions/year	\$16,390			
\$28,341 / \$16,390	=1.7			

## Appendix N: Pre-Test/Post-Test Questionnaire



- 1. True or False In the Philippines, 1 in 4 deaths are attributed to air pollution
  - A. True
  - B. False

#### 2. Exposure to \_\_\_\_\_ can lead to adverse health effects.

- A. First hand smoking
- B. Second hand smoking
- C. Third hand smoking
- D. Answers A & B
- E. Answers A, B, & C

#### 3. Homes built before the year \_\_\_\_\_ should be tested for lead

- A. 1958
- B. 1968
- C. 1978
- D. 1988

#### 4. All of the following statements regarding asbestos are true except

- A. Construction workers are at high risk for exposure to asbestos
- B. People can only be exposed to asbestos through inhalation
- C. Drinking water may contain asbestos
- D. Asbestos can cause anemia
- 5. All of the following are considered indoor allergens, except
  - A. Dust mites
  - B. Mold
  - C. Pollen
  - D. Answers A & B
  - E. Answers A, B, & C

## **Appendix O: Case Study**



#### **Case Study**

You are checking in Jason, an 11-year-old boy into the clinic. He is accompanied by his mother, who is concerned about his health. His mother states that she has asthma, and she thinks his symptoms might be associated with asthma also. She has noticed that Jason is starting to get short of breath with activity. Jason states that the last time he played basketball with his friends, he had to stop multiple times to try and catch his breath. This is unusual for him, as he is able to play long hours outside without any problems.

Upon collection of health history from Jason and his mother, you are able to gather the following information:

-Family lives in house handed down by grandparents in Metro Manila

<u>Mother</u> -Hotel housekeeper -History of asthma, anemia

Father -Smoker 30 pk/year -Owns and manages parking lot for jeepney drivers -History of hypertension

<u>Child #1 Boy 11 y/o</u> -Will start high school this coming school year -History of eczema

<u>-Child #2 Girl 4 y/o</u> -Healthy

#### Case Study Questions

- 1. With the information you collect above, what are you concerned about?
- 2. What other questions might you ask Jason and his mother?
- 3. How would you educate Jason and his mother?

## **Appendix P: Post Simulation Survey**



#### POST SIMULATION SURVEY

What was your overall opinion of this case study simulation (please circle one)

5- Excellent	4- Very Good	3- Good	2- Fair	1-Poor
--------------	--------------	---------	---------	--------

Please rate the following by circling the number that corresponds to the scale below.

5- Strongly Agree	4- Agree	<b>3-</b> Neutral	2- Disagree	1- Strongly	7 Di	sag	ree		
I clearly understood th	ie purpose and	objectives of	the case study exerc	cise	5	4	3	2	1
The scenario presented	d a real-life sit	uation			5	4	3	2	1
I was able to incorpora	ate what I lear	ned into the ca	ase study exercise		5	4	3	2	1
The toolkit was easy to	o use and unde	erstand			5	4	3	2	1
I learned a lot from thi	is case study				5	4	3	2	1
This case study helped	1 me identify n	ny str <mark>engt</mark> hs a	nd weaknesses		5	4	3	2	1
I feel comfortable edu effects of environment				ardous	5	4	3	2	1

## Appendix Q: Post-Educational Workshop Survey



# 1) What was your overall opinion of this educational session (please circle one) 5- Excellent 4- Very Good 3- Good 2- Fair 1- Poor

Educational Objectives: Please rate the following by circling the number that corresponds to the scale below.

5- Extremely Likely	4- Likely	3- Neutral	2- Unlikely	1- Extremely Unlikely
---------------------	-----------	------------	-------------	-----------------------

2) After the educational session and case study simulation, I am able to do the following:

-Identify potential sources of haza	rdous exposure in the home and environment	5	4	3	2	1
-Identify the links between toxic e	xposure and adverse health effects	5	4	3	2	1
-Educate patients and/or colleagu	es on environmental risks and exposures	5	4	3	2	1

3) What did you like most about this educational workshop?\_\_\_\_\_

4) What did you like least about this educational workshop?

5) Do you have any specific suggestions as to how the educational workshop might be improved? \_\_\_\_\_

6) I felt the content was: (please circle one)

Too Advanced Advanced Just Right Basic Too Basic

#### 7) Was the information/material presented free from commercial bias? (please circle one)

Yes No If no, please explain \_\_\_\_

# Appendix R: Tool Usability Survey

Feedback of Usability Survey						
Environmental Hea	alth and Safety Ass	essment Toolkit				
	1. What type of s	etting do you work in?				
	2. How many tim	es did you use or referenc	e the toolkit?			
	3. The toolkit wa	s easy to use and underst	and			
	Disagree	Undecided	Agree			
	4. The toolkit se	rved as a guide during my	patient assessments			
	Disagree	Undecided	Agree			
	$\bigcirc$					
	5. I feel comforta environmental h	ble providing patient edu ealth risk	cation regarding			
	Not comfortable	Somewhat comfortable	Very comfortable			
	0					
		e or reference the toolkit a	gain during my			
	clinical practice					
	Not likely	Somewhat likely	Very likely			
	7. What did you like	e most about the toolkit?				
	8. What did you lik	e least about the toolkit?				
		ĥ				
			a haw the			
	toolkit might be in	y specific suggestions as to nproved?	o now the			
		,				
		, A				
		Powered by				
		SurveyMonkey				

See how easy it is to create a survey.

## **Appendix S: DNP Statement of Non-Research Determination**

Student Name: \_\_\_Alyssa Samson\_

<u>**Title of Project:**</u> Implementation of a Culturally Sensitive Environmental Health Risk Assessment Toolkit

**Brief Description of Project:** The purpose of this project is to increase the knowledge pertaining to environmental health risks with respect to the Filipino population at a nursing school in the Philippines. This can be done by providing education and training to nursing students to implement environmental health screening for their patients.

**A) Aim Statement:** By January 2018, Lyceum Northwestern University College of Nursing will implement the use of an environmental health risk assessment for the provision of culturally sensitive care and education to the Filipino community through their nursing students.

**B) Description of Intervention:** The project manager will conduct a three-part educational training session. The first part includes a preliminary presentation on environmental health and the use of the screening toolkit. The second part will be held for the purpose of simulation. The third part is for debriefing and discussion. Following the educational sessions, the project manager will provide the nursing students on-site with all the necessary resources required to implement the toolkit into clinical practice. Eight weeks post implementation, the project manager will communicate with the local project manager to collect the data and feedback regarding the usability and feasibility of the toolkit by means of surveys and questionnaires.

## C) How will this intervention change practice?

This intervention will supply healthcare providers with a culturally sensitive toolkit that will help facilitate risk management and communication. It will also increase education and awareness to people belonging to the community in question, which is important for the prevention of disease and the improvement in the quality of life.

**D) Outcome measurements:** (1) To increase awareness of environmental health risks to 100% of nursing students in the local region, as evidenced by their personal readiness survey scores that state they are either "likely" or "extremely likely" to identify hazardous exposures in the home and environment that can lead to adverse health effects. (2) To increase the nursing students' personal knowledge related to environmental health risks, trends, screening tools, and current research, as evidenced by a minimum score of 80% on the post-test. (3) To prepare 100% of the participating nursing students to screen patients for environmental health risks using the TEHSAT tool, as evidence by their personal readiness survey score that shows their likeliness to use the tool and provide patient education during practice.

## **Appendix S: DNP Statement of Non-Research Determination (cont.)**

To qualify as an evidence-based change in practice project, rather than a research project, the criteria outlined in federal guidelines will be used: (<u>http://answers.hhs.gov/ohrp/categories/1569</u>)

□ This project meets the guidelines for an evidence-based change in practice project as outlined in the Project Checklist (attached). Student may proceed with implementation.

□ This project involves research with human subjects and must be submitted for IRB approval before project activity can commence.

Comments:

## **EVIDENCE-BASED CHANGE OF PRACTICE PROJECT CHECKLIST \***

### Instructions: Answer YES or NO to each of the following statements:

Project Title:	YES	NO
The aim of the project is to improve the process or delivery of care with established/ accepted standards, or to implement evidence-based change. There is no intention of using the data for research purposes.	X	
The specific aim is to improve performance on a specific service or program and <b>is a part of usual care</b> . ALL participants will receive standard of care.	Х	
The project is <b>NOT</b> designed to follow a research design, e.g., hypothesis testing or group comparison, randomization, control groups, prospective comparison groups, cross-sectional, case control). The project does <b>NOT</b> follow a protocol that overrides clinical decision-making.	Х	
The project involves implementation of established and tested quality standards and/or systematic monitoring, assessment or evaluation of the organization to ensure that existing quality standards are being met. The project does <b>NOT</b> develop paradigms or untested methods or new untested standards.	Х	
The project involves implementation of care practices and interventions that are consensus-based or evidence-based. The project does <b>NOT</b> seek to test an intervention that is beyond current science and experience.	Х	
The project is conducted by staff where the project will take place and involves staff who are working at an agency that has an agreement with USF SONHP.	Х	
The project has <b>NO</b> funding from federal agencies or research-focused organizations and is not receiving funding for implementation research.	Х	
The agency or clinical practice unit agrees that this is a project that will be implemented to improve the process or delivery of care, i.e., <b>not</b> a personal research project that is dependent upon the voluntary participation of colleagues, students and/ or patients.	Х	
If there is an intent to, or possibility of publishing your work, you and supervising faculty and the agency oversight committee are comfortable with the following statement in your methods section: <i>"This project was undertaken as an Evidence-based change of practice project at X hospital or agency and as such was not formally supervised by the Institutional Review Board."</i>	Х	

## Appendix S (cont.)

**ANSWER KEY:** If the answer to **ALL** of these items is yes, the project can be considered an Evidence-based activity that does NOT meet the definition of research. **IRB review is not required. Keep a copy of this checklist in your files.** If the answer to ANY of these questions is **NO**, you must submit for IRB approval.

\*Adapted with permission of Elizabeth L. Hohmann, MD, Director and Chair, Partners Human Research Committee, Partners Health System, Boston, MA.

STUDENT NAME (Please print): Alyssa Samson

Adam

Signature of Student: \_\_\_\_

**DATE**\_\_11/27/2017\_\_

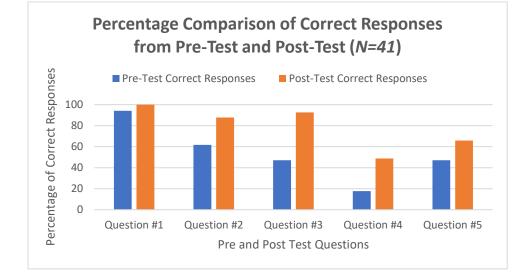
SUPERVISING FACULTY MEMBER (CHAIR) NAME (Please print): \_\_\_\_Prabjot (Jodie) Sandhu, DNP, FNP-C, PA-C, CNL \_\_\_\_\_

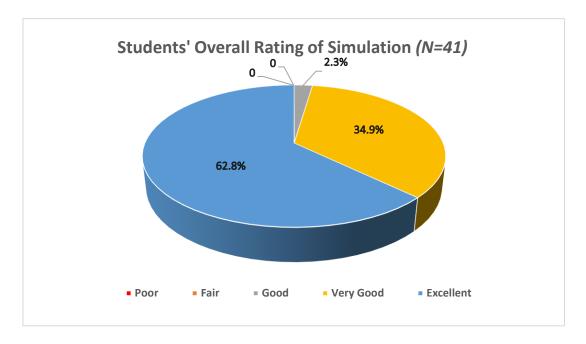
Signature of Supervising Faculty Member (Chair):

\_P.Sandhu\_\_\_\_\_ DATE\_\_11/27/2017\_\_\_\_\_

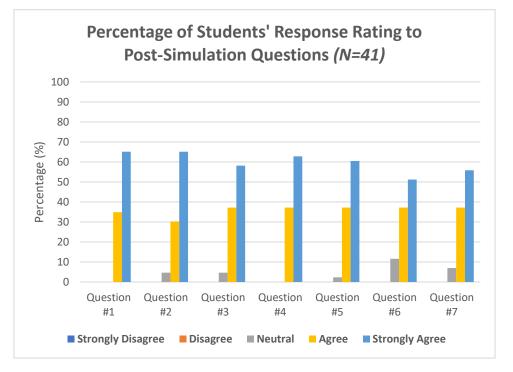
Pre-Test Question Number	Percentage of Pre-Test Correct Responses	Percentage of Post-Test Correct Responses
Question #1	94.12	100.00
Question #2	61.76	87.80
Question #3	47.06	92.68
Question #4	17.65	48.78
Question #5	47.06	65.85

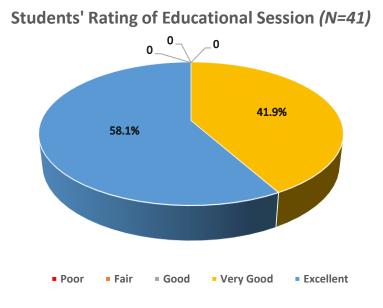
# **Appendix T: Pre-Test/Post-Test Results**



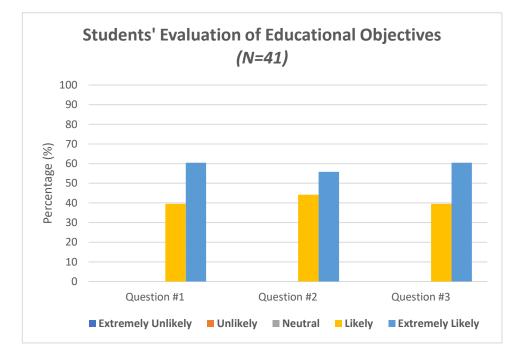


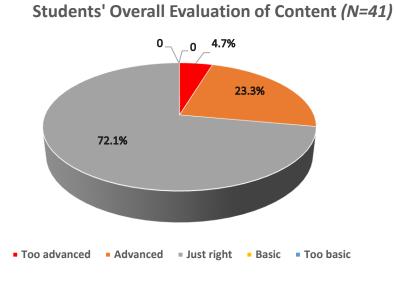
**Appendix U: Post-Simulation Survey Results** 





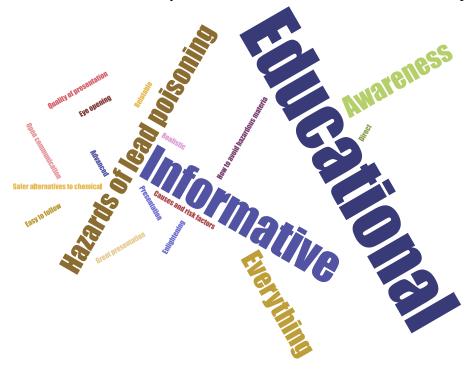
# **Appendix V: Post-Educational Workshop Survey Results**





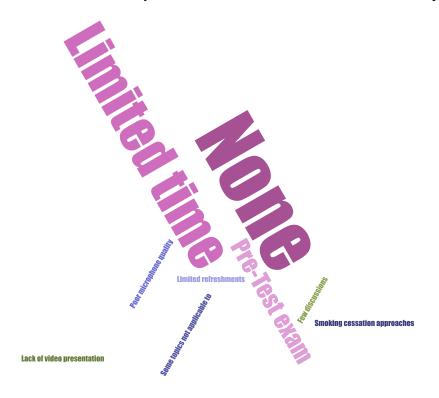


Word Cloud #1: What did you like most about this educational workshop?



# Appendix V: Post-Educational Workshop Survey Results (cont.)

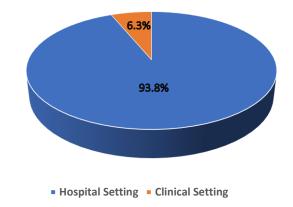
Word Cloud #2: What did you like least about this educational workshop?



Word Cloud #3: Do you have any specific suggestions as to how the educational workshop can be improved?



# **Appendix W: Tool Usability Survey Results**



Type of Work Setting of Student Participants (N=16)

# Number of Times the Toolkit was Utilized by Student Participants (N=16)

