Applying Implementation Science to build IPV screening and referral capacity in a Fracture Clinic: Lessons learned from a pilot study

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BACKGROUND

In Toronto, a previous study reported that 1 in 4 female patients at the St. Michael’s Hospital Fracture Clinic had experienced intimate partner violence (IPV) within a year of their fracture.1-2 Building upon the need for and motivation to support a comprehensive screening and referral initiative in the Fracture Clinic, a team of researchers and clinicians used methods of implementation science to strengthen existing screening activities taking place in the clinic.

Adapted Methodology Using the Applied Implementation Framework

Goals
- Build upon existing implementation research by adapting the approach to a health care setting
- Ensure the process is well integrated within the clinic by engaging a research-clinician implementation team throughout the process
- Share successes and challenges, allowing for scale-up to a variety of healthcare settings

FINDINGS

Link to IPV screening app: https://withwomen.ca

Patient acceptability of technology-enhanced screening (N=4):
Had enough privacy and felt safe and comfortable completing screening
Technology was easy to understand
Comfortable knowing a healthcare provider might follow up with them

(1) Data summarized from Exploration Tools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Screening using best practices</th>
<th>Technology-enhanced screening</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Existing clinic barriers:</td>
<td>Addition of technology:</td>
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<tr>
<td>☑ Lack of privacy</td>
<td>☑ Minimize delays in clinic flow</td>
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<tr>
<td>☑ Limited staff time to spend on screening</td>
<td>☑ Reduce burden on staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>☑ Presence of patient’s partner</td>
<td>☑ Give control back to patients</td>
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</tbody>
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(2) Data reported from Round I of Pilot (over period of 8 clinic days)

Fracture Clinic Type (N of eligible patients) | % of Patients who Completed IPV* Screening | # of Positive Screens
---|---|---
Upper extremity (N=158) | 60.8 | 11
Trauma (N=30) | 46.7 | 1
Hip and knee (N=69) | 28.9 | 1
Overall (N=257) | 50.6 | 13

*Does not include patients who completed dummy screening or opened/closed the screening app without answering

REFERENCES


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