

Evaluation of community health promotion empowerment for the competence of correct medication among elderly

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Abstract

The national medical expenditure of the elderly is 40% over than the national health insurance spending and has been gradually increasing in recent year. The percentage of medication expense in overall medical expenditure is high. Partly because the lack and errors of correct medication of the public lead the waste of national health insurance resource. To improve the medication knowledge of the public not only increase the effectiveness of national health insurance resource but also benefits the individual with good health outcome. The research studied the elderly in Gui-Ren District, Tainan City. The study design was referred to the MAP-IT framework that included mobilize, assess, plan, implement and track of Healthy People 2020 guideline. We assessed the needs and resources in the community, created and carried out the action plan, and evaluated the outcome. The result shows the in-home correct medication education does significantly improve

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the elderly's competence of correct medication. Social workers may play an important role to facilitate the effective communication between the elderly and the pharmacists. Moreover, the social workers could be the bridge of participants to reach out for the applicable resources to receive its benefits, need assessment, coordinator, empowerment and help to achieve the goal of community health promotion.

Keywords: Correct medication, MAP-IT, Community health promotion, Social work