EVIDENCE BRIEF:
WISE PRACTICES FOR INDIGENOUS-SPECIFIC CULTURAL SAFETY TRAINING

ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

This is a summary of an evidence brief report. The report is based on a thorough review and synthesizing of...

- 7 review articles
- Critical theory on race, transformative education, & decolonizing pedagogy
- Experts in cultural safety & competency

Why is Indigenous-specific cultural safety training important?

Because...

- Health inequities between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people are striking.
- Many First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples experience being ignored, belittled, mocked, disrespected, and discriminated in mainstream healthcare systems.
- It begins to address non-Indigenous healthcare providers' attitudes and behaviours – often unconscious, reflecting entrenched and unchallenged assumptions about Indigenous people*.
- The importance of cultural safety training is in 5 of the 94 Calls to Action recommendations from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (2015).

WISE PRACTICES

Evaluate the training.

1. Have a detailed training description for consistent & reliable implementation and evaluation.
2. Focus on power, privilege, & equity. Ground it in decolonizing & anti-racist pedagogy. Use principles of transformative education theory.
3. Ensure that facilitators are appropriately trained.
4. Offer training in learning spaces that challenge resistance from AND support non-Indigenous peoples to learn from their discomfort.
5. Ensure Indigenous learners are appropriately supported, particularly when learning with non-Indigenous peers.
6. Ensure system-level support for accountability & organizational transformation.

Indigenous-specific cultural safety training curriculum that covers power & privilege; an approach that considers how social & historical contexts, as well as structural interpersonal power imbalances and colonialism, shape health & health care experiences. "Safety" is defined by those who receive the services, not those who provide it.

Wise practices

"Locally appropriate actions, tools, principles or decision that contribute significantly to the development of sustainable and equitable conditions." (Wesley-Esquimaux & Calliou, 2010, p. 19)

* Browne, Fiske, & Thomas, 2000; Benoit, Carroll, & Chaudhry, 2003; Kurtz, Nyberg, Van Den Tillaart, Mills, & The Okanagan Urban Aboriginal Health Research Collective, 2008; Møller, 2010; Wesche, 2013; Denison, Varcoe, & Browne, 2014

To read the full report, visit the resource link on www.welllivinghouse.com.