Traditional Medicine: A Scientific Capacity Building Approach

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Abstract

This paper describes learning design models for traditional medicine. Traditional medicine practice employs an array of resources extracted from plants, animals, and minerals, to maintain well-being through treating, diagnosing, or preventing ailments. The practice also uses spiritual therapies, manual techniques, and exercises, as well as a diverse range of health practices, approaches, knowledge, and beliefs.

The scientific capacity building initiative addressed a major question; How do we bridge the Naturopathic Medicine educational gaps? Forming stepping-stones to a Bachelor of Health Science in Naturopathic Medicine, as well as a postgraduate pathway into Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry.

Keywords: Traditional medicine • Naturopathic Medicine • Pharmacognosy • Phytochemistry

Introduction

A literature review study was initiated at African College of Health (an independent e-learning project) in May. 2018. Thousands of online articles were thematically reviewed, aimed at educational-content extractions.

Methods

In the preoperative diagnosis of thyroid nodules, FNA continues to be the first-line method with good outcomes. But in addition to FNA, other techniques that have proven useful in making the right diagnosis can also be applied, depending on the clinical circumstances. In this situation, assessing thyroid nodules involves the collaboration of endocrinologists, pathologists, radiologists, and geneticists. In order to offer patients with thyroid nodules with the best care possible, additional research should be done to determine the optimal method of combining all of this data.

Databases

World Health Organization, Pharmacopoeias and various other online health care portals.

Inclusion and exclusion criteria

Works written in the English language and published after December 2019 were given priority. The study materials collected were integrated into pre-designed curricula and migrated into Learning Management Systems. The curricula are structured in the most basic formats, in conformity with the requirements of most regulatory bodies.

Results

Review of findings fertilizes augmentation of the mechanisms for capacity building, in addressing traditional medicine knowledge gaps for the lower and middle income countries.

Conclusions

The results can be used to inform traditional medicine knowledge interventions across priority areas of capacity building:

- Policy development
- Organizational development
- Information and evidence
- Awareness raising
- Advocacy actions
- Partnership development
- Leadership skills development

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