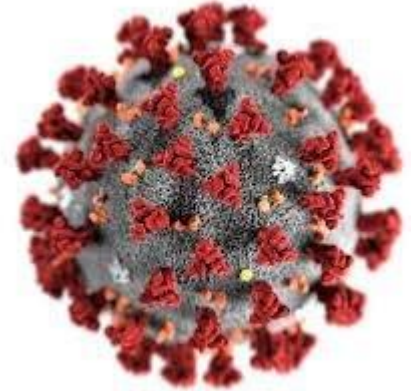


Alberta Network Environment for Indigenous Health Research (AB-NEIHR) Indigenous Primary Health Care and Policy Research (IPHCPR) Network

JOURNAL CLUB

Public Health Crises and Indigenous Health

Presented by Anika Sehgal and Kayla Fitzpatrick



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1. Introduction and Purpose
2. Article 1 summary
 - Presented by Anika Sehgal
3. Article 2 summary
 - Presented by Kayla Fitzpatrick
4. Discussion
 - 4 guiding questions
5. Closing remarks

AGENDA

July 12th, 2021 1:00pm-2:00pm

Thank you for attending!

Please:

-turn on camera

-feel free to unmute and
participate in the discussion

PURPOSE

(1) Examine how public health crises such as pandemics impact Indigenous peoples and communities in Canada

(2) Focus on the response of health systems through a series of key questions for collective exploration

The 2009 H1N1 pandemic response in remote First Nation communities of Subarctic Ontario: barriers and improvements from a health care services perspective

(Charania and Tsuji, 2011)

Purpose: Retrospectively examine the barriers/opportunities for improvement during the 2009 H1N1 in 3 remote Subarctic First Nation communities.

Methods: Semi-directed interviews were conducted (n=13) with those representing the 3 main sectors of health care services (i.e., federal health centres, provincial hospitals, and Band Councils).

Results: Primary barriers: overcrowding in houses, insufficient human resources, and inadequate community awareness. Areas for improvement: increasing human resources (i.e., nurses and trained health care professionals), funding for supplies, and general community awareness regarding disease processes and prevention.

Conclusions: More support (human resources, monies and education) and collaboration between government organizations.

COVID-19 and the decolonization of Indigenous public health

(Richardson and Crawford, 2020)

Commentary:

- Social equity (adequate housing, water, food and income) needed to enable people/communities to employ public health measures during pandemics.
- Public health approaches implemented with awareness of how colonization has affected health care experiences for Indigenous Peoples.
- Rate of COVID-19 for Indigenous communities in Canada is lower than that for the general population.
- Indigenous self-determination, leadership and knowledge have been successful in protecting Indigenous communities in Canada during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- These principles should be at the forefront when planning public health approaches with Indigenous Peoples.

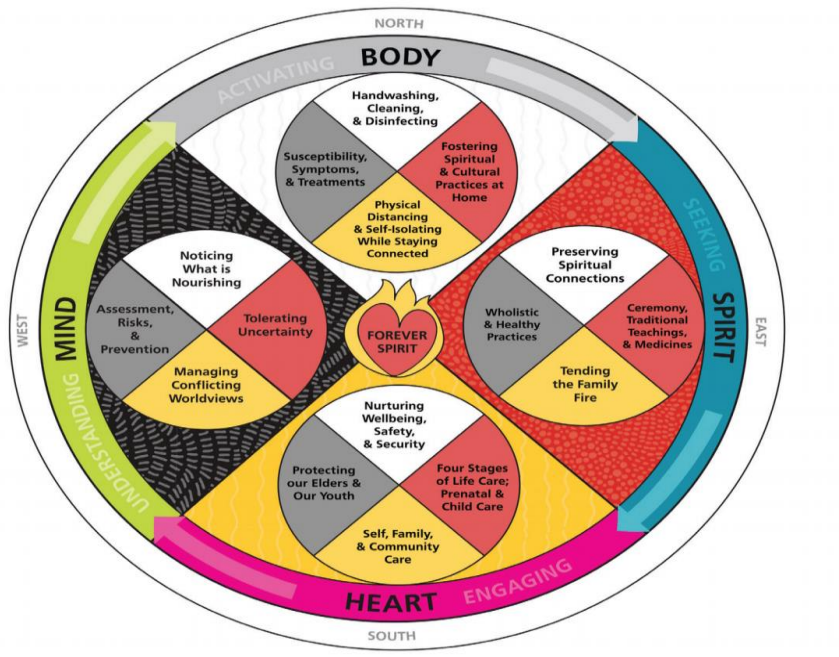
Question 1

- Considering the lessons learned and recommendations from the H1N1 pandemic, what role has colonization played in the health outcomes of Indigenous peoples?
 - What determinants of health and/or factors become more prominent during pandemics? Why is it critical that we address these?

Question 2

- Highlighted by Richardson and Crawford (2020), “innovative educational materials and public health campaigns have been created by many different First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities” can you think of any examples that you have come across in communities?
- A challenge that we have discovered is the lack of documentation and evaluation of materials and programs implemented in communities during a crisis, why do you think this is? How could we better support communities to have the capacity to document and evaluate for lessons learned to better prepare communities for future public health crisis?

Question 3



- What aspect of this figure stood out the most for you? Why?

“Adaptation by the Centre for Wise Practices at the Women’s College Hospital in Toronto of the Four Directions Medicine Wheel for a holistic approach to preventing and building physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual resilience during COVID-19” (Richardson & Crawford, 2020)

Question 4

- Richardson and Crawford state that “Indigenous self-determination, leadership and knowledge have been successful in protecting Indigenous communities” – what are some cautions that should follow this statement?
 - For example, the importance of collaboration between federal, provincial, and Indigenous community organizations?
 - How can self-determination be misconstrued in future pandemics? What are some problems that may arise from the successes demonstrated in the COVID-19 pandemic?
 - How can we ensure the *root causes* of this self-determination are not ignored?

Thank you for attending!

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