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## **DEVELOPING A NEEDS ASSESSMENT TO GUIDE CARE AND RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT FOR LGBTQ+ INDIVIDUALS AT A STUDENT-RUN FREE CLINIC**

(1) Background: Many student-run free clinics lack specific, relevant, and community-driven care for LGBTQ+ populations. This deficiency may be due to major disparities in health data recorded from LGBTQ+ populations(1). Students, residents, and medical attendings may rely on outdated and harmful stereotypes, generalizations, or biases towards a diverse population. Based on previous research, including The PRIDE Study(3) and the Federal Interagency Working Group Papers on Sexual and Gender Minority Groups(4), the clinic initiated a community-engaged research project to assess LGBTQ+ health needs. These regional, small scale needs assessments can provide information on developing targeted, relevant, and consistent care, health education, and resources for LGBTQ+ patient populations(5).

(2) Cardinal Free Clinics <http://med.stanford.edu/cfc.html>

(3) Methods: Initial LGBTQ+ health assessment topics were drawn from The PRIDE Study. Next, interviews were conducted with community stakeholders, including local LGBTQ+ centers and free clinics focused on LGBTQ+ healthcare. Finally, after analyzing LGBTQ+ health assessment items and interviews, a student volunteer team developed the needs assessment.

(4) Outcomes: Stakeholder interviews were tailored to address 1) current medical resources available to 2) gaps in access to medical care for and 3) important health education topics with respect to LGBTQ+ populations. These qualitative results are currently being used to finalize the needs assessment, which will be deployed in conjunction with community partners by early 2021. The results of the needs assessment will help our clinic understand medical needs of regional LGBTQ+ patient populations, allowing the clinics to target medical care and increase education initiatives.

(5) Conclusion: In order to provide relevant and useful medical care to LGBTQ+ populations, student-run free clinics may benefit from designing and implementing shortened needs assessments in their own communities. In addition, partnering with local LGBTQ+ centers to create these needs assessments can provide avenues to increase the visibility of a student-run free clinic as a source for LGBTQ+ healthcare.

### References:

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