The science of behaviour change: How health professionals can better support their patients

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Myth 1: Behaviour change is easy





ISLAGIATT Principle -Prof Martin Eccles







"What conditions internal to individuals and in their social and physical environment need to be in place for a specified behavioural target to be achieved?"



Michie et al. 2011 (Implementation Science)

Behaviour Change Wheel



Michie, Atkins & West (2014)

Myth 2: Information drives behaviour change



Behaviour is influenced at multiple levels





Two key concepts in self-management

1. Collaborative care: the collaborative relationship between the health-care professional and patient

2. Self-management education: In comparison to traditional education, self-management teaches skills & techniques to allow the patient to overcome barriers

Chronic disease self-management programme

SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

Volume 10 — January 17, 2013

A Meta-Analysis of Health Status, Health Behaviors, and Health Care Utilization Outcomes of the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program

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Suggested citation for this article: Brady TJ, Murphy L, O'Colmain BJ, Beauchesne D, Daniels B, Greenberg M, et al. A Meta-Analysis of Health Status, Health Behaviors, and Health Care Utilization Outcomes of the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program. Prev Chronic Dis 2013;10:120112. DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.5888/pcd10.120112 🗗.

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Abstract

Introduction

The Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP) is a community-based self-management education program designed to help participants gain confidence (self-efficacy) and skills to better manage their chronic conditions; it has been implemented worldwide. The objective of this meta-analysis was to quantitatively synthesize the results of CDSMP studies conducted in English-speaking countries to determine the program's effects on health behaviors, physical and psychological health status, and health care utilization at 4 to 6 months and 9 to 12 months after baseline.

Methods

We searched 8 electronic databases to identify CDSMP-relevant literature published from January 1, 1999, through September 30, 2009; experts identified additional unpublished studies. We combined the results of all eligible studies to calculate pooled effect sizes. We included 23 studies. Eighteen studies presented data on small English-speaking groups; we conducted 1 meta-analysis on these studies and a separate analysis on results by other delivery modes.

Results

Among health behaviors for small English-speaking groups, aerobic exercise, cognitive symptom management, and communication with physician improved significantly at 4- to 6-month follow-up; aerobic exercise and cognitive symptom management remained significantly improved at 9 to 12 months. Stretching/strengthening exercise improved significantly at 9 to 12 months. All measures of psychological health improved significantly at 4 to 6 months and 9 to 12 months. Energy, fatigue, and self-rated health showed small but significant improvements at 4 to 6 months but not at 9 to 12 months. The only significant change in health care utilization was a small improvement in the number of hospitalization days or nights at 4 to 6 months



	Traditional Patient Education	Self-management Education
What is taught?	Information and technical skills about the disease	Skills on how to act on problems
How are problems formulated?	Problems reflect inadequate control of the disease	The patient identifies problems he/she experiences that may or may not be related to the disease
Relation of education to the disease	Education is disease-specific and teaches information and technical skills related to the disease	Education provides problem-solving skills that are relevant to the consequences of chronic conditions in general
What is the theory underlying the education?	Disease-specific knowledge creates behavior change, which in turn produces better clinical outcomes	Greater patient confidence in his/her capacity to make life-improving changes (self-efficacy) yields better clinical outcomes
What is the goal?	Compliance with the behavior changes taught to the patient to improve clinical outcomes	Increased self-efficacy to improve clinical outcomes
Who is the educator?	A health professional	A health professional, peer leader, or other patients, often in group settings

Supporting self-management

- Encouraging people to participate actively in their self-management by acknowledging that they are experts in their own lives
- Using evidence-based information to guide shared decision making
- Non judgemental approach
- Collaborative approach to setting priorities and goals
- Collaborative problem solving
- Active follow-up
- Links to evidence-based community programs/support groups
- Ensuring that self-management is culturally appropriate

(Ministry of Health, 2016)



How to better support patients



When does real, sustainable behaviour change occur?

Patient/client involvement

- Behaviour change occurs when the patient is engaged
- The decision to change behaviour must come from the patient
- The patient must choose goals for themselves

Health professional's skills

- Establish rapport
- Use active listening
- Discuss how social and cultural factors may facilitate or challenge change to occur
- Use client-centred techniques (e.g. Healthy conversation skills, motivational interviewing)



Motivational Interviewing is a client-centered, goal-oriented method for enhancing intrinsic motivation to change by exploring and resolving ambivalence

Miller & Rollnick, 2002

(or... helping people talk themselves into changing)



The origins of motivational interviewing

Originally developed to address substance use disorders
 Therapist effects

Miller, 1983:

- Empothic, person-centred
- Enpathic response to "sustain talk"
- The client (not therapist) voices the a guments for change

"the change-promoting value of hearing oneself argue for change"

Miller & Rose, 2009, p.2

What is motivational interviewing?

- Behaviour change is a shared endeavour supports client autonomy
- MI has been described as a `way of being' with a client
- The 'spirit' in which it is delivered is as important as the techniques that are used

 warm, genuine, respectful and egalitarian
- Five basic components to enhance motivation:
 - 1. Development of discrepancy
 - 2. Avoid argumentation
 - 3. Rolling with resistance
 - **4.** Expression of empathy
 - 5. Support of self-efficacy



Foundational skills in MI



Open-ended Questions



Affirmations



Reflections



Summaries

Levels of reflection

- Repeating: the simplest reflection simply repeats an element of what the speaker has said.
- Rephrasing: the listener stays close to what the speaker said, but substitutes synonyms or slightly rephrases what was offered.
- Paraphrasing: this is a more major restatement, in which the listener infers the meaning in what was said and reflects this back in new words. This adds to and extends what was actually said. In artful form, this is like continuing the paragraph that the speaker has been developing, saying the next sentence rather than repeating the last one.
- Reflection of feeling: often regarded as the deepest form of reflection, this is a paraphrase that emphasizes the emotional dimension through feeling statements, metaphor, etc.



Thank you!

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