

# Renal Care for First Nations Communities: Crossing Bridges to Communities

BC Nephrology Days 2008

Concurrent Session October 2

*Expand our horizons; Explore our relationships;*

*Excel in patient-centred care*



# Relationships are Key

- Reaching out
- Re-establishing relationships
- Maintaining relationships



# Barriers to Care

- Patient has difficulty accepting diagnosis
- Provider has difficulty providing culturally relevant nutrition information
- Providers have difficulty coordinating a team approach
- Going home – patient/provider



# Challenges/Work to be Done.

- Bridging jurisdiction
- Privacy and confidentiality issues
- Getting to know all of your partners
  - Client and family
  - Community Health Team



# Getting to Know the Community Health Team

- Services and human resources in First Nations communities include:
  - Community Health Representative
  - Community Health Nurse
  - Drug and Alcohol Counsellor
  - Health Clerk
  - Home Care Coordinator and home support worker



# Community Health Team May Also Include

- Health Directors/Managers
- Prenatal Workers
- Preschool and early childhood programs
- Youth Workers
- Elders Program Coordinator
- Cultural Coordinators
- Mental Health Workers
- Dietitians



# Successes

- Aboriginal Patient Advocates within the HA; also use of Aboriginal Liaison Nurses to assist with hospital discharge planning
- Locally health practitioners/leaders from both sides of the bridge are coming together to find solutions to barriers



# Quest to Improve Aboriginal Health

- There is growing recognition that closing the gap in health status between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians requires coordinated efforts by all involved





# Initiatives on the Horizon

- Health Canada's Aboriginal Health Transition Fund [AHTF] is addressing issues of access and First Nations input into the planning, implementation and evaluation of service delivery
- Aboriginal health organizations are recognizing the value of integration ("collaboration") to better coordinate services with other providers
- MOH and HAs have identified Aboriginal Health in their strategic health plans



# Initiatives to Reduce Barriers to Care

- Expand our horizons
- Develop or strengthen relationships
- Excel in caring: Look beyond the individual



# How can we retell the story?

- What ideas might improve relationships with CKD First Nation clients living with CKD?
- How can you support more upstream solutions for CKD?
- Are there other points of service that could be supported or utilized?
- Other ideas to improve care?



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