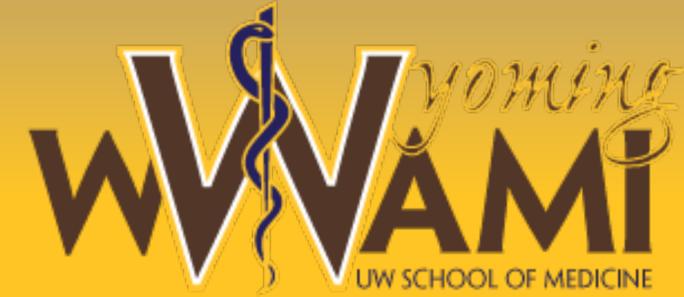


Enhancing Health Literacy and Promoting Preventive Medicine among the Geriatric Community in Buffalo, WY

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Hypothesis

- Improving health literacy about preventive medicine and awareness of Medicare-covered services will increase utilization leading to a reduction in the burden of disease within the geriatric population in Buffalo, WY.

Background

- Population 4,485; 20% being adults aged 65+
- 2021 health needs assessment listed the aging population as a top 3 concern with an emphasis on Medicare benefits education
- Local nurses and physicians identified how Medicare's preventive services are underutilized
- Buffalo is geographically constrained by limited access to education on preventive healthcare



Map of Buffalo; Buffalo population sign

Literature Review

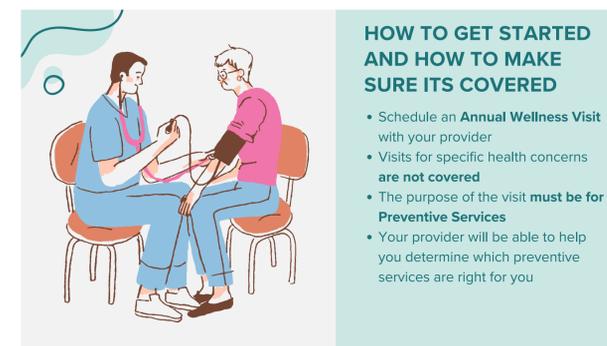
- Educational interventions have been shown to increase preventive service utilization
- Research underscores the substantial role of preventive services in mitigating both mortality and morbidity, and reducing the incidence of serious conditions
- Research has shown that annual wellness visits increase the usage of preventive services and can help reduce disparities in preventive medicine within disadvantaged populations

Community Scholarly Project

- Enhance the literacy about preventive healthcare and its significance as a cornerstone for better overall health outcomes
- Increase awareness regarding the broad array of cost-free preventive services offered by Medicare
- Promote annual wellness visits as the best avenue for utilizing preventive services
- Recommend navigating preventive medicine with collaboration and guidance from primary care providers

Deliverables to Community

- Presentation on preventive medicine and how to best utilize Medicare's services through annual wellness visits given at Buffalo Senior Center
- Infographic on preventive medicine, including examples of Medicare's preventive services, was handed out at presentation, as well as sent out with the Meals-on-Wheels home delivery meal service
- Infographic was displayed on the Senior Center's event display TV



Slides from Presentation



Infographic (front and back)

Next Steps

- Follow up assessment on the comprehension of delivered pamphlets through conversations with local healthcare professionals
- Consider staffing limitations to an influx of annual wellness visits