

Betydningen af kulturelle kompetencer for sundhedsprofessionelle og patienter i psykiatrien – et litteraturstudium

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ABSTRACT

Background: The growing diversity of populations due to migration has a great impact on society. It can serve as a resource that different cultural backgrounds come together in one place, but a multicultural society has challenges as well. Vulnerability within migrants creates disparities among patients and minority patients are within greater risks to suffer from mental illness. The field of transcultural psychiatry addresses these problems. A proposed and popular approach to assess these disparities is cultural competency.

Purpose: This is a literature study that attempts to investigate the existing evidence of the effect of cultural competencies on patient related outcomes such as patient satisfaction and compliance/adherence, and provider related outcomes such as attitude and self-evaluation of obtained skills in a mental health context.

Method: With the help of a PICO model supporting the problem definition and further inclusion and exclusion criteria, advanced searches were conducted through PubMed, REX and PsycInfo followed by searching through reference lists.

Results: The literature study resulted in 7 reviews and 4 empirical studies that were then analyzed focusing on patient related outcomes and provider related outcomes.

Discussion and Conclusion: The reviews and empirical studies varied in several key aspects such as definition of cultural competency, intervention designs, study designs, minority populations and outcome measures. However, there is good evidence that cultural competencies have an effect on provider attitudes and building of culturally sensitive skills, and a positive effect on patient satisfaction. There is minor evidence of the effect on patient compliance and adherence.