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## A study of the effect of a Health Literacy Module (HeLM) on the health literacy knowledge, attitudes and skills of pre-licensure baccalaureate nursing students

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**Abstract:** Effective communication is a foundation of high-quality, patient-centered health care. Understanding health literacy is an essential attribute that health care professionals need to possess in order to promote effective partnerships with patients and their significant others. Nurses, especially, need to be involved in addressing the epidemic problem of low health literacy in the United States because they are responsible for the majority of patient, caregiver and community health education and communication. Nurses play a key role in providing health care information to individuals, families and groups in a variety of settings and therefore should be educated about the essentials of health literacy, its prevalence in society and its relationship to health outcomes. There are currently no standards for including health literacy training in the undergraduate nursing curriculum. Results of the pilot study will be presented.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness of the Borrero Health Literacy Module (HeLM) on health literacy knowledge, attitudes and skills of pre-licensure nursing students using a pretest and posttest approach

**Method:** Pre-licensure baccalaureate nursing students (n=180) have been invited to participate in this quasi-experimental study. Students will complete the health literacy questionnaire: The Health Literacy Knowledge and Experience Survey (HL-KES) as both a pretest and a post test. The classroom sessions will include the researcher designed components of the HeLM.

**Findings:** It is the hope of the researcher that the findings will support the inclusion of a practical approach to incorporating health literacy education in to the nursing curriculum.

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## When the \*innovation\* is a \*human\* one: Co-creation of a domestic intercultural immersion between indigenous people from the wisconsin northwoods and baccalaureate nursing students from northeast indiana, usa

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We often think first of scientific innovations, such as those in the fields of telehealth and telemedicine, however, innovations within the humanities and social sciences also speak to the heart of nursing practice. At Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne (IPFW), baccalaureate nursing students engage in a week-long domestic intercultural immersion with the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa—a federally recognized Ojibwa Native American tribe with an Indian Tribal Settlement in the Wisconsin Northwoods. Development of the experience is facilitated using social media and networking. A private FB group page for Lac du Flambeau Planning Purposes enables coordination of the many details involved in organizing the immersion such as bus/van transportation across three states, forms for confidentiality and HIPAA, and other essential details. Funding is provided by the Nursing Department and Student Government. During the clinical immersive experience, students engage with tribal members, perform a community assessment in partnership with the Native Health Clinic, and they work and serve side by side elders and younger members of the community. Students provide evidence of their ability to assess a community using classic and contemporary community health nursing literature. They work on projects that are of interest to the Tribe, and return home with a greater appreciation of some of the challenges and opportunities for Native Americans residing on a reservation. At the conclusion of the immersion, students de-brief with their professors and on the nine (9) hour bus trip home, share insights about American Indians and Indigenous People worldwide.

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