Assessing NCAA DII Student-Athlete Perceptions of Gender Bias & Cultural Competence in Health Care

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Overview of Presentation

• Review of Health Care Disparities Literature
• Methodology
• Results
• Conclusions
• Future Directions
Cultural Competence (Cross, Bazron, Dennis & Isaacs 1989)

- Cultural and linguistic competence is a set of congruent behaviors, knowledge, attitudes, and policies that come together in a system, organization, or among professionals that enables effective work in cross-cultural situations.
Research on Disparities in Health Care

• Under-represented groups have:
  – Delayed care (Dovidio, 2008)
  – Less interaction w/provider (Dovidio, 2008)
  – Lower satisfaction of health care (Dovidio, 2008; Haviland, 2005)
Research on Student-Athlete Health Care

- **Positive social support from ATs**
  (Barefield & McCallister, 1997; Robbins & Rosenfield, 2001)

- **Gender – conflicting**
  (Clemet, 2012; Unruh, 1998; Unruh, Unruh, Mooreman & Seshadri, 2005)
Research on Cultural Competence of Athletic Trainers

- Gender & race/ethnicity were indicators of competence
- Years in practice was not an indicator of competence (Volberding, 2013)
Methodology

• Research question: How do student athletes perceive cultural competence of certified athletic trainers?

• Adapted survey from Commonwealth Fund -Johnson, Saha, Arbelaez, Beach & Cooper (2004)

• Emailed link to survey to coaches at NCAA DII institutions
Results

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Demographic Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Participant Gender</th>
<th>Reported AT Gender</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>40.3%</td>
<td>43.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>59.4%</td>
<td>54.0%</td>
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<td>0.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
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N = 423
Demographic Information

Participant Numbers by Sport

Count

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<tr>
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<th>Count</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XC/Track</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
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<td>Volleyball</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrestling</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baseball</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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</table>
Gender & Sexual Orientation-Yes/No Questions

• Do you think there was ever a time when you would have gotten better medical care from your certified athletic trainer if you were a different gender?
• Do you think there was ever a time when you would have gotten better medical care from your certified athletic trainer if you were a different sexual orientation?
  • Yes=1
  • No=2
Demographic Information

Participant/certified AT—Gender Match

- Gender match: 65.8%
- No gender match: 34.2%

N = 423
Results

Participant/Certified AT—Gender Match

Mean

Better medical care if different gender
Better medical care if different sexual orientation

Match
No match
Likert Scale Questions

- I feel that my certified athletic trainer treats me with respect.
- I feel that my athletic trainer understands my background and values.
- I often feel as if my athletic trainer looks down on me and the way I live my life.*
- Strongly Disagree=1
- Strongly Agree=4
Results

Participant/Certified AT—Gender Match

- Treated w/ respect
- Understands background
- Looks down on me

Match
No Match
Race/Ethnicity-Yes/No Questions

- Do you think there was ever a time when you would have gotten better medical care from your certified athletic trainer if you were a different race?
- Thinking about all of the experiences you have had with health care visits in the last 2 years, have you ever felt that the athletic trainer or athletic training staff you saw judged you unfairly or treated you with disrespect because of your race or ethnic background?
- Thinking about all of the experiences you have had with health care visits in the last 2 years, have you ever felt that the athletic trainer or athletic training staff you saw judged you unfairly or treated you with disrespect because of how well you speak English?
Demographic Information

Participant/certified AT—Race/Ethnicity Match

N = 423

- Match: 75.9%
- No match: 24.1%
Better treatment if different race
Judged based on race
Judged based on English

Match
No Match
I feel that my certified athletic trainer treats me with respect.

I feel that my athletic trainer understands my background and values.

I often feel as if my athletic trainer looks down on me and the way I live my life.*

Strongly Disagree=1

Strongly Agree=4
Participant/certified AT—Race/Ethnicity Match

- Treated w/ respect
- Understands background
- Looks down on me

<table>
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<tr>
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<td>Treated w/ respect</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understands background</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Looks down on me</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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Conclusions

- Current sample is not representative of racial/ethnic and gender diversity of NCAA student athletes
- Continue to monitor trends in data for statistical significance
Future Directions

- Plan is to distribute survey NCAA DI & DIII student athletes
- Regression analysis to examine interaction of race/gender
Thank you

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