

Abstract

Although STI screenings are available to patients, this type of screening is not always requested or discussed at routine office visits. The use of retail clinics to screen for STIs may be a strategy to increase the number of STI screenings and treatment that are conducted. The Sexual Health Protocol (SHP) and educational intervention would be implemented in hopes to increase provider competency and confidence to better understand detection times of STIs, implement the SHP, and recommend STI screenings to patients. Expanding the nurse's role to include the promotion of providing educational resources, disease risks, STI awareness, and STI screenings at clinic visits may help to improve patient outcomes. The use of the health promotion model gives the healthcare provider an opportunity to incorporate the SHP into relevant clinic visits with the goal of improving patient outcomes through health awareness. In addition the results of the project showed that such interventions may increase the provider's confidence and ability to fully assess a patient's sexual health. The findings indicated that the confidence questions and knowledge questions all showed improvements in the post questionnaires.