

Mobile Health Clinic

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Background and Clinical Question

- How can healthcare systems and policies be adapted to address transportation barriers.
- 3.6 million people experience barriers to medical care.
- This negatively impacts healthcare outcomes and quality of life.
- Negative impact on the U.S. Healthcare system to an amount of 150 billion dollars annually (Wolfe et al., 2020).

Purpose Statement

The goal is to establish a mobile health clinic that will provide healthcare to underserved communities by serving 50 women within the first six months of operation. This clinic will include preventative care, pap smears, well-women exams, sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevention education, and STI screenings for underserved communities

Current Evidence

- Eliminate barriers to healthcare and transportation by expanding and improving access to patient who faces limited access to healthcare.
- Quality improvement activities to promote safety and decreased incidences
- Results in a decrease in health care costs and improved outcomes and access to healthcare (Coaston et. al., 2023).
- 411 different patients were studied in 2019 that were in rural areas. This resulted in a 1.61 times more utilization and compliance rate. It decreased healthcare costs, eliminated transportation barriers, and improve quality of life (Coaston et. al., 2023).
- Mobile health clinic in Baltimore had an improve HIV screening consent (Yu et. al, 2017).

Methodology

- 1.Homeless and vulnerable females
- 2.Decrease transportation barriers
- 3.Mobile Van
- 4.Integrate with stakeholders of the communities
- 5.Understand the communities' population and culture

Cost Analysis

- Mobile clinics involve several upfront costs, such as purchase of the vehicle, medical equipment, and potential technology (Runaso, 2024). The below numbers are a relative breakdown based on other mobile clinics

Item	Estimated Cost
Vehicle Purchase	\$50,000-150,000
Medical Equipment	\$30,000-100,000
Technology Setup	\$10,000-30,000
Licensing and Permits	\$5,000-10,000
Initial Supplies	\$5,000-15,000
Annual Operating Costs	\$250,000-500,000

Design

1. Custom designed vehicle used to deliver essential medical services
2. Mirror the structure and function of traditional healthcare clinics
- 3.Include a private examination room, workspace, storage, restroom, and small waiting room
- 4.Parked at accessible community locations
- 5.Staffed by licensed and trained medical professionals

Anticipated Results

- Show significant improvements to healthcare delivery and access to patients
- Mobile health clinics are effective in enhancing healthcare access
- Data obtained from the Mobile Health Map represented that 52.2% of patients experiencing barriers to health care, were strongly improved with mobile health clinics and healthcare outcomes (Yu et. al, 2017). Mobile health clinics are successful in reaching high-risk populations and increased participation in health screenings (Yu et al., 2017)

Clinical Implications

- Decrease incidences of untreated sexually transmitted infections (STI). STIs cost the medical system around 16 billion dollars per year (CDC, 2024). This will also decrease costs on infertility induced by STIs.
- Improve psychological and emotional distress that lack off access to healthcare can cause women. Especially women who are of pap smear screening years and at risk for cervical cancer. This will help women feel comfortable receiving care without judgement. This will improve health screenings and preventative care by providing this access.

Conclusion

Mobile health clinics provide a strong resolution to eliminating transportation barriers and providing high quality care. This will help millions of Americans have access to essential medical care and continued chronic care management. These clinics provide preventive care and chronic disease management, which will improve health outcomes and decrease the healthcare burden transportation barriers cause. These clinics increase compliance and provide early detention and treatment (Coaston et. al., 2023).

Future Recommendations

- Continuous data collection will be prioritized at a Microsystems and mesosystem. This will be used fathering both quantitative and qualitative data. This data collection and analysis of the data can be influential in demonstrating the value these clinics bring to the community. This information is also beneficial to stakeholders in showing the success that these clinics can have on the communities. This information, and patient satisfaction and success reports can be used to establish future funding opportunities.

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