

Ethics Issues in Indigenous Health

*Amy Bombay, Assistant Professor, School of Nursing, Department of Psychiatry
Dalhousie University*

The following discussion questions are provided as an additional educational tool to accompany this fireside chat video. Please feel free to select the questions that are most relevant to your committee or group, and to revise and adapt them as needed. As always, we welcome feedback on this or any other NSHEN resource.

Questions:

- According to Dr. Bombay there is little reliable data available for Indigenous groups in Canada. What might be the reason for this?
- Explore different ways to ensure that health research meets the needs and concerns of Indigenous communities.
- Several health indicators, including rates of chronic disease and mental health problems, demonstrate significant inequities in health outcomes for Indigenous people in Canada. How can research contribute to addressing some of these inequities?
- Dr. Bombay states that different aspects of colonialism continue to make it difficult for Indigenous communities in Canada to find ways to address the various determinants of health that continue to affect these communities. What might some of these systemic barriers be?
- How might health care education systems contribute to fostering cultural competence and culturally safe health care?
- Dr. Bombay mentions that not asking a person's cultural background can be perceived as not being attentive to the whole person. Discuss how this may influence individual health outcomes, and consider different ways to approach all patients in a culturally safe way.
- Many of the issues Dr. Bombay discusses are linked to of systemic discrimination; how can health care contribute to addressing this legacy of colonialism?

Resources

A cultural competence guide for primary health care professionals in Nova Scotia.

http://www.healthteamnovascotia.ca/cultural_competence/Cultural_Competence_guide_for_Primary_Health_Care_Professionals.pdf

AFMC Primer on Population Health A virtual textbook on Public Health concepts for clinicians. Chapter 3: Cultural Competence and Communication https://cna-aiic.ca/~media/cna/page-content/pdf-en/first_nations_framework_e.pdf

Allan, B. & Smylie, J. (2015). First Peoples, second class treatment: The role of racism in the health and well-being of Indigenous peoples in Canada. Executive Summary. Toronto, ON: the Wellesley Institute. <http://www.wellesleyinstitute.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Summary-First-Peoples-Second-Class-Treatment-Final.pdf>

Bombay, A. (2015). A call to end mental health disparities for Indigenous people. *The Lancet Psychiatry*; Volume 2, No. 10, p861–862, October 2015. [http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpsy/article/PIIS2215-0366\(15\)00352-1/abstract](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpsy/article/PIIS2215-0366(15)00352-1/abstract)

Cultural competence and cultural safety in nursing education. A framework for First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nursing. https://cna-aiic.ca/~media/cna/page-content/pdf-en/first_nations_framework_e.pdf

Fridkin, A.J. (2012). Addressing Health Inequities Through Indigenous Involvement in Health-Policy Discourses. *Canadian Journal of Nursing Research (CJNR)* 2012, Vol. 44 No 2, 108–122. <http://cjr.archive.mcgill.ca/article/viewFile/2352/2346>

Greenwood M, de Leeuw S, Lindsay NM, Reading C. (2015). Determinants of Indigenous People's Health in Canada. Canadian Scholars Press Inc. [available in NSHEN's library]

Hatala A., Desjardins M., Bombay A. (2016) Reframing Narratives of Aboriginal Health Inequity: Exploring Cree Elder Resilience and Well-Being in Contexts of Historical Trauma. *Qualitative Health Research* 26(14); 1911–1927 (first published October 21, 2015)

Honoring the truth, reconciling for the future, summary of the final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, page 158-164.

http://www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/File/2015/Honouring_the_Truth_Reconciling_for_the_Future_July_23_2015.pdf

National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health - http://www.nccah-ccnsa.ca/368/Cultural_Safety_in_Healthcare.nccah

Reading, J. and B. Farber. 2015. Why is Canada ignoring the health of aboriginal peoples? The Globe and Mail, April 9, 2015 [Accessed May 23, 2017]

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/why-is-canada-ignoring-the-health-of-aboriginal-peoples/article23856403/>

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