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To complete your part of the submission process please fill out the fields below as they relate to your DNP Project and return to your mentor.

Title: Alternative Treatment for Mood in Parkinson's Disease

Abstract:

**Background**: Around 40-50% of people with Parkinson's disease will develop anxiety or depression, the number one factors affecting their quality of life. Cognitive behavioral therapy is the most well-established intervention for anxiety and depression in people with Parkinson's disease. **Purpose:** The project addresses a southwestern Parkinson-specific community center's need for mental health by incorporating a cognitive behavioral therapy-based mental

health program, guided by the Cognitive Behavioral Model. Methods: Recruitment at the center took place during a virtual weekly meeting with inclusion criteria of a Parkinson's disease diagnosis, 50 years or older, and English speaking. A four-week, virtual, nurse-led cognitive behavioral therapy-based mental health program was created to examine the effects on anxiety, depression, and quality of life in ten people with Parkinson's disease. Pre-and postintervention Geriatric Anxiety Inventory (Cronbach's alpha, 0.91), Hamilton Depression Rating Scale (Cronbach's alpha, 0.87), and Parkinson's Disease Questionnaires (Cronbach's alpha, 0.84) were used to assess anxiety, depression, and quality of life. Results: Using a Twotailed paired samples t-Test, mean values and p-value were calculated with alpha value of 0.05, t(39) = -0.10, p = .922 for anxiety, Alpha value of 0.05, t(16)=3.69, p=0.002 for depression, Alpha value of 0.05, t(38)=5.07, p<0.001 for quality of life, and Alpha value of 0.05, t(5)=4.54, p=0.006 for emotional wellbeing. Conclusion: A cognitive behavioral therapy-based mental health program at a Parkinson-specific center has the potential to improve quality of life, emotional wellbeing, and decrease depression in people with Parkinson's disease. *Implications:* Research with larger sample sizes, assessment for longterm benefits, and longer duration of therapy would be beneficial.

Author(s): Meghan Kielbania

Mentor(s): Dr. Stephanie De' Santiago

Subject Tags/Keywords (enter at least 3 unique tags): Parkinson's disease, anxiety, depression, quality of life, cognitive behavioral therapy

Number of Pages:

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