



Healthy Teen Network

SEXUAL HEALTH E-LEARNING *Assessment on Professional Development Opportunities for Educators*

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Abstract: Healthy Teen Network conducted a review of sexual health e-learning professional development opportunities for educators, assessing accessibility, affordability, content and visuals, quality, appropriateness for adult learners, assessments, cost, and duration.

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SEXUAL HEALTH E-LEARNING

Assessment on Professional Development Opportunities for Educators

BACKGROUND

Healthy Teen Network is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Reproductive Health (CDC-DRH) as part of the *Teen Pregnancy Prevention: Integrating Services, Programs, and Strategies through Community-Wide Initiatives* cooperative agreement. Healthy Teen Network provides capacity-building assistance to support grantees to implement evidence-based programs (EBPs) and strategies, with quality and fidelity.

Working with grantees over the course of the project, it became evident that many trainers and facilitators needed either an introductory class or refresher on sexual health concepts such as anatomy and physiology, contraception, and sexually transmitted infections (STIs). CDC approved Healthy Teen Network to assess the availability of e-learning professional development opportunities for educators on this content.

Many educators needed professional development opportunities on sexual health concepts.

METHODS

Healthy Teen Network developed an assessment tool to assess the accessibility, affordability, content and visuals, quality, appropriateness for adult learners, assessments, cost, and duration of each program. To identify available programs, Healthy Teen Network first made a list of well-known programs and organizations. We conducted a web search, using Google, to identify additional programs and organizations, using a combination of the following keywords: professional development, human sexuality education, and adult learners. Healthy Teen Network did not search for programs aimed at the end user, such as youth or parents.

The Healthy Teen Network training and technical assistance providers used a standardized assessment tool to review each identified program. Items were subjectively assessed and scored on a four-point scale—excellent, good, fair, or poor. Some websites did not allow further exploration of the content without being members or paying customers, and therefore, some content was not accessible for review: the findings presented in this report constitute a review of programs and materials available for the general public at no cost. Program search and review was conducted between May and mid June 2013.

ON-GOING ASSESSMENT

Healthy Teen Network is interested in your e-learning professional development experiences. If you have comments or suggestions for other e-learning professional development opportunities, please complete a brief online survey:

<http://fluidsurveys.com/s/htnelearningassessment/>



RESULTS

Table 1 displays the results of the review of the e-learning professional development opportunities. Because some of the content was not accessible for review without paying a fee, these areas are listed as “no review” in the table. The following descriptions were available online through the organizations and agencies hosting the e-learning opportunities.

Alberta Health Services (www.teachingsexualhealth.ca): Alberta Health Services provides the website as a resource for sexual health teachers and educators in Alberta, Canada, to enhance excellence in education by providing teachers with evidence-based sexual health education and delivery methods, lesson plans and activities, and comprehensive resources.

American School Health Association, I Wanna Know (www.iwannaknow.org/educators/educators.html): Iwannaknow.org is a site of the American Sexual Health Association (ASHA) and is a resource for educators and youth, with information on sexual health for teens and young adults, including comprehensive information on STIs, as well as information on healthy relationships, dating violence, and more.

ANSWER Trainings (answer.rutgers.edu): Answer provides training to teachers and other youth-serving professionals and offers sexuality education directly to teens, by teens, through the *Sex, Etc.* magazine and website. Answer's self-directed, interactive online workshops are approved for six Category I Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) credits each by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing (NCHEC).

Cardea (<http://www.cardeaservices.org/TRAINING/ELEARNING-COURSES/INDEX.HTML>): Cardea's mission is to improve organizations' abilities to deliver accessible, high quality, culturally proficient, and compassionate services to their clients. Cardea's e-learning courses are a combination of webinar recordings, e-learning modules, audio conference recordings, and independent study courses.

ETR RECAPP (<http://recapp.etr.org/recapp/>): ETR is a health education promotion organization that provides programs, trainings, and research and publications in the area of adolescent pregnancy prevention. The Resource Center for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention (ReCAPP) provides tools and information to reduce sexual risk-taking behaviors.

Global Health Learning (GHel) Center (www.globalhealthlearning.org/courses): USAID's Bureau of Global Health developed the GHel Center to provide its worldwide health staff with access to state of the art technical global health information. The GHel Center offers courses aimed at increasing knowledge in a variety of global health technical areas. The primary audience is health sector staff at USAID missions around the world.

New York Promoting and Advancing Teen Health (NYPATH) (<http://www.nypath.org/>): NYPATH is an initiative for healthcare providers who serve adolescents in primary and specialty care settings throughout New York State. It is led by the Heilbrunn Department of Population and Family Health at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health in partnership with Physicians for Reproductive Health, the ACT for Youth Center of Excellence, and adolescent health and medicine experts. The goal is to provide clinicians with web-based and onsite clinical, tools, resources, and training that are evidence-based and adolescent-specific.



Office of Adolescent Health (OAH), E-Learning Modules (www.hhs.gov/ash/oah): OAH is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of adolescents to enable them to become healthy, productive adults. First funded in 2010, OAH supports and evaluates evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention (TPP) programs and implements the Pregnancy Assistance Fund (PAF); coordinates Department of Health and Human Service efforts related to adolescent health promotion and disease prevention; and communicates adolescent health information to health professionals, parents, grantees, and the general public. OAH is the convener and catalyst for the development of a national adolescent health agenda.

Planned Parenthood University (www.plannedparenthood.org/PPGNW/FILES/GREAT-NORTHWEST/2012_PPU_SE_PROGRAM_DESCRIPTION.PDF): Planned Parenthood University is an educational venture presented by Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest and endorsed by the Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA), establishing nationally recognized professional certification in reproductive health and sexuality education. The Sexuality Education Certificate is designed for educators, trainers, and staff of Planned Parenthood affiliates and related organizations, providing sexuality and reproductive health presentations to groups in their communities and in schools and other educational settings.

South Carolina Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy Online Learning Center (OLC) (<http://olc.teenpregnancysc.org/site>): The South Carolina Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy's mission is to improve the health and economic well-being of individuals, communities, and the state of South Carolina by preventing teen pregnancy. The OLC includes resources such as webinars, PDFs, and links to resources. The purpose of the OLC is to better equip individuals, groups, and organizations to meet the needs of young people and to reduce the rate of adolescent pregnancy. The OLC reflects the field's best practices, supporting the transition from research to practice.

Table 1: Summary of E-Learning Professional Development Opportunities

Organization	Key														Duration	Cost
	Anatomy & Physiology	Pregnancy Physiology	Contraception	STIs	Communication with Youth	Teaching Sexuality	Medical Accuracy	Appropriate Language & Literacy	Appropriate for Adult Learners	Graphics & Visuals	Reputation of Authors/Developers	Self-Assessment	Self-Paced			
Alberta Health Services	•	•	•	•	•	•	***	***	**	***	***	•	•	Varies	Free	
ASHA IWannaKnow	•		•	•			***	***	**	*	***		•	Varies	Free	
ANSWER			•	•	•	•	no review	no review	no review	***	****	•	•	6hrs over 30 days	\$150 ea	
Cardea	•		•	•			no review	no review	no review	no review	***	•	•	1.5hrs over 2wks	\$15	
ETR RECAPP	•		•	•	•	•	no review	no review	no review	no review	no review		•	Varies	\$32-\$144 ea	
Global Health Learning Center		•	•	•	•		****	****	****	****	****	•	•	2 hrs/course	Free	
NYPATH	•		•	•	•	•	****	***	***	***	****	•	•	1 hr/course	Free	
Office of Adolescent Health					•		****	****	****	**	**			Varies	Free	
Planned Parenthood University	•	•	•	•	•	•	no review	no review	no review	no review	no review	•		5-10 hrs/wk, 10-12wks	\$600	
South Carolina Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, Online Learning Center			•	•	•	•	****	****	****	****	****		•	Varies	Free	