

Highlighting Hydrocephalus

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What Is Hydrocephalus And Why Does It Matter?

- Hydrocephalus is a neurological condition that impacts a person's development in the areas of cognition, physical, and language.
- Symptoms of severity vary from person to person. Some individuals are non-verbal, while some may have physical challenges, such as poor coordination.
- Hydrocephalus impacts thousands of individuals across the U.S., making it as common as Down Syndrome.
- Outside of Neurosurgeons, Neurologists, Neuropsychologists, and Pediatrician's, a lot of medical providers have not heard of Hydrocephalus.
- Lack of awareness can drastically impact a person's quality of care. If a doctor is not aware of a condition, then how do they know what to look for? They don't, which can make rates of misdiagnosis high. This lack of awareness can be particularly true among General Family Practice Physicians.
- The more awareness of hydrocephalus, the more information providers have.

What Does the Data Say?

- A class of **47** PA students were surveyed with pre and post questions, with an educational video being shown in between them. Fourteen students answered the pre-survey compared to 16 who answered the post survey. They were asked 7 questions, which were the same for pre and post surveys; assessing their knowledge/awareness of Hydrocephalus. Overall, there was a slight improvement from the pre and post surveys, after watching the educational Hydrocephalus video. In the pre-survey **64%** were able to answer the 7/8 symptoms that were listed on a checklist, compared to the post survey **of 88%**. Symptom awareness is important because the more that is known, the more likely correct diagnosis can be made.
- To view the Highlighting Hydrocephalus video, contact Robin Ennis, LCSW, CPC at rlennis02@gmail.com.
- The more you know, the more you grow!