

DEVELOPING A MEANINGFUL AND CULTURALLY SAFE COLLABORATIVE SPACE FOR FIRST-LINE WORKERS IN YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS IN NUNAVIK: THE ATAUTSIKUT COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE (COP) EXPERIENCE

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Background: Atautsikut, togetherness in Inuktitut, is the name of the community of practice (CoP) in youth mental health and wellness (YMHW) developed in the 14 Inuit communities of Nunavik, in response to training, support and collaborative needs expressed in the field. The goal of Atautsikut is to provide face-to-face and online activities to Inuit and non-Inuit first-line workers involved in YMHW with the intent of providing continuing education while enhancing mutual understanding and collaboration among CoP members. Atautsikut activities include 90-minute monthly meetings of small CoP groups that combine workers from two Nunavik communities via Videoconferencing. These meetings include short YMHW training sessions designed to build on Inuit and non-Inuit knowledge, followed by group discussions. Objectives: This presentation's objectives are 1) to describe the Atautsikut's CoP objectives, modalities, and conducted activities, and 2) to discuss barriers and facilitators to the implementation process, including sociocultural, political, linguistic and technical elements that need to be considered. Proposition: The presentation will provide a description of the first phases of the Atautsikut initiative and of preliminary results of the participatory community-based implementation research project attached to it. Potential Outcomes: This presentation will inform the audience on the Atautsikut CoP's activities carried out in Nunavik, Quebec. Data collected at T0 (start of CoP activities) will also be presented. More specifically, members' demographics and attendance at CoP activities will be reported, and themes that emerged regarding participants' reactions to the different knowledges presented in CoP activities will be presented. Steps taken towards collaboration and solidarity among CoP members will also be discussed. Discussion: Barriers and facilitators to implementing CoPs in remote indigenous contexts in Canada or internationally will be discussed. Sensitive ways of creating a meaningful and culturally safe collaborative space among workers showing a great level of diversity will also be proposed.

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Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this presentation, participants will be able to:

1. Describe the implementation process of the Atautsikut CoP in youth mental health and wellness in Nunavik, Quebec, including conducted CoP activities and members' demographics and attendance at CoP activities
2. Discuss linguistic, sociocultural and technical elements which may influence the implementation process of CoPs in remote Indigenous contexts, and better understand how collaboration and solidarity is built and challenged within such multicultural and multilingual settings.

References

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