Understanding and Taking Action to Promote the Safe Use of Acetaminophen among Hispanics – Know Your Dose Campaign

American Public Health Association's Annual Meeting New Orleans, LA. November 2014

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Presenter Disclosures

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(1) The following personal financial relationships with commercial interests relevant to this presentation existed during the past 12 months:

"No relationships to disclose"

The National Alliance for Hispanic Health (the Alliance)

Vision: Strong healthy communities whose contributions are recognized by a society that fosters the health, well-being, and prosperity of all its members.

Mission: Improve the health of Hispanic communities and work with others to secure health for all.

We are unique:

- Since 1973 represent all Hispanic groups.
- Dedicated to community-based solutions.
- No funds from tobacco or alcohol companies.



The Issue: Acetaminophen

- The most common drug ingredient in America.
- Found in more than 600 prescription and over-the-counter medicines.
- When used as directed, it is safe and effective.
- Taking more than directed is an overdose and can lead to liver damage.



The Know Your Dose Campaign (KYD)

Partners: The Acetaminophen Awareness Coalition: A diverse group of organizations.

Purpose: committed to educate communities on the safe use of acetaminophen.

The Alliance: Support development of the KYD in Hispanic communities.



The Hispanic Campaign

- Development of the KYD campaign framework.
- Design of culturally and linguistically appropriate content to promote safe use of acetaminophen.
- Deliverables:
- Environmental Scan
- Conduct CPD
- Disseminate resources
- Support new partnerships



Community Panel Discussion Objectives

- General Use of Medicines (OTC and Prescription)
- 2. Knowledge, Attitudes and Behaviors
- 3. Communication Platforms to Reach Hispanics
- Testing Resources/Developing Messages

Methodology

- Selection of sites
- Creation of a protocol
- Selection of participants
- Pre-test and demographic data
- Performance of CPDs



Findings: Use of Acetaminophen

- Use OTC medicines on a regular basis, but do not know if they contain APAP.
- Combination of 2 medicines with APAP is very common as is combining APAP and alcohol.
- Not aware of the alternative names for APAP.
- Disregard of dosage instruction.

... I take 2
Paracetamols
500mg and then I
take Tylenol
650mg and the
next day I am as
good as new."

Findings: Knowledge, Attitudes, Behavior

- Lack of knowledge on:
 - Correct use
 - Alternative names
 - Consequences of an overdose
- Confusion between APAP and Ibuprofen
- Misconception about overdosing with APAP
- Recognition of brand names



Findings: Developing Messages

- Always read and follow the label.
- Know if your medicines contain acetaminophen.
- Never take two medicines that contain acetaminophen at the same time.





NEVER TAKE 2
medicines that contain acetaminophen at the same time

Findings: Communication Platforms

- Use of social and other digital media.
- Television, radio, word-ofmouth, and written materials.
- Written materials should be:
 - Simple, Short, and Concise
 - With vivid colors, large print, and pictures
- Providers trusted by consumers.



Recommendations for Hispanic Outreach

- Use effective communication platforms
- Language preference and literacy levels
- Reading the label, include a label on the materials
- Names and abbreviations of APAP
- Entertainment education
- Liver damage and other side effects
- Use of cultural values



Recommendations for Providers

- 1. Ask their providers and pharmacist about APAP
- 2. Emphasize avoidance of risky behaviors
- 3. Share all medications with their providers
- 4. Remind providers that Hispanics do use social and other digital media
- 5. Use health advertisement/education on television in waiting rooms.
- 6. Maximize the potential of current phone messaging systems
- 7. Place materials in all pharmacies and clinic

Know Your Dose Cartoon Video

