**Annotated Bibliography**

Lurie, E., Nathwani, M., Slater, M., Pascoal, E., Chadwick, S., Cmorejova, J., & Guiang, C. (2020). Aging and sexual health: A cross-sectional survey of patients in a Canadian urban academic family health team. Canadian Journal on Aging, 39(3), 365–372. <https://doi-org.proxy.lib.odu.edu/10.1017/S0714980819000734>

In this article, researchers wanted to examine the sexual behaviors of persons over the age of 50 as well as the role primary care physicians played in terms of their sexual health. The study was based in St. Michael’s Hospital Academic Family Health Team (SMHAFHT) in Toronto, Ontario Canada and was published in February of 2020. In this study, a cross-sectional survey was used to assess patients over the age of 50. They were asked questions about sexual activity, problems, and level of comfort discussing their sexual health with their primary care providers. The results showed that 39% of those assessed were sexually active. 17% of those surveyed reported avoiding sexual activity because of sexual health problems they were experiencing. Those that did report to their PCP’s stated that they were more comfortable discussing the physical aspects of sexual problems, compared to the emotional and social aspects. Future research was recommended to explore open discussion between care providers and their patients. This study relates to the program I am evaluating because it showcases the same demographic of persons over the age of 50. Also, it shows that a large portion of people of this age are sexually active. Furthermore, not all aspects of sexual health are being discussed with their care providers and a psychoeducational group could cover a more comprehensive group of topics and facilitate a safe place to learn.

Morgan, A. E. (2021). Seniors and sexual health: A profile of sexual behaviors and perceptions of sexual risks in Southern Nevada’s older adult population [ProQuest Information & Learning]. In Dissertation Abstracts International: Section B: The Sciences and Engineering (Vol. 82, Issue 2–B).

In this study, researchers learned about the sexual behaviors of persons aged 65 and over. In addition, it looked at the risk and protective factors of the sexual health of this demographic and attempted to identify their educational needs related to sexuality. The methods used were an assessment of 234 anonymous surveys given to people in Southern Nevada aged 65 or older. The results of this assessment showed that 34.4% of these individuals were sexually active within the four weeks prior to taking the survey. In addition, while 61.5% of these individuals said they felt comfortable discussing sexual health with their care providers, only 31% report being asked about this area of health by medical professionals. The surveys also conveyed that these individuals wanted to learn more about sexual topics such as sex and disability, dating, and other social aspects of sex involving communication. The article suggests changes within the health care system to allow for sexual health to be addressed more often by medical health professionals. This related to my program because it shows the lack of knowledge about certain aspects of sexual health in this demographic and the desire to learn more. My program covers topics that health professionals are not addressing as shown in this article.

Pierpaoli Parker, C. (2021). The senior sex education experience (SEXEE) study: Considerations for the development of an adult sex education pilot intervention [ProQuest Information & Learning]. In Dissertation Abstracts International: Section B: The Sciences and Engineering (Vol. 82, Issue 4–B).

The purpose of this study was to examine the need for sexual education for seniors because of a current lack of this type of education, as well as conceptualize the type of education framework that would be most beneficial. The study was completed at the University of Virginia in 2021. The participants in the study were 17 adults, ages ranging from 53 to 77, and six physicians. The older adults were assessed in their late life sexual knowledge, and then were split into three focus groups which focused on their needs, interest, and input on sexual education, as well as describing their perspective on aging and sexuality. Physicians were interviewed to report on their experiences with older patients regarding sexual health as well as their recommendations for an education program. The findings of this study reported below optimal sexual knowledge in both the individuals and the physicians, and other barriers to education included an agist mentality, avoidance, and discomfort. Findings suggested that an older adult sex education would be beneficial, which is relevant to my program I am evaluating. In addition, this is the same age range as the program, and this description of potential barriers to education could facilitate qualitative questions to ask the program participants to further understand their perspective.

Ezhova, I., Savidge, L., Bonnett, C., Cassidy, J., Okwuokei, A., & Dickinson, T. (2020). Barriers to older adults seeking sexual health advice and treatment: A scoping review. International Journal of Nursing Studies, 107. <https://doi-org.proxy.lib.odu.edu/10.1016/j.ijnurstu.2020.103566>

This study was published in 2020 and was conducted at the King’s College London in London, UK. The objective of this study was to determine what barriers prevented older adults from seeking sexual advice and treatment with the goal of lowering the rate of STDs among this population. The method of this study included a scoping review of other literature relevant to this topic, with data charted and findings summarized and combined utilizing a scientific method. The data uncovered four barriers: cultural and societal views towards sexual health, stigma, embarrassment, and discrimination, lack of training and education of health care professionals, and the quality of relationship between medical health professionals and patients. Implications from this study include addressing the need in the future for medical health professions to create an environment of trust and openness and to encourage older adults to be candid about sexual concerns. This study is relevant to my program because it addresses the connection between STDs and sexual health education in the same demographic, as well as identifying barriers to look for in my program evaluation.

Sinković, M., & Towler, L. (2019). Sexual aging: A systematic review of qualitative research on the sexuality and sexual health of older adults. Qualitative Health Research, 29(9), 1239–1254. <https://doi-org.proxy.lib.odu.edu/10.1177/1049732318819834>

This study was conducted at the University of Zagreb in Croatia and published in 2019. It explored what had already been researched about sexual aging in the method of a literature review with the purpose being to discover what other topics could benefit from research on this topic. Findings discovered two main themes of research. One was psychological and relational aspects of sexuality which includes personal meanings and understandings of sex, couple hood aspects, and sociocultural aspects. The other heavily researched them was on health and sexuality which includes effects of illness and/or treatment on sexuality and help-seeking behaviors). Findings suggested that more research is needed in the following topics: male sexual desire and pleasure, cultural and gender identities and their effect on help-seeking, and sexual risk taking in older adults. This is relevant to my program because it shows that sexual risk taking is an issue for the demographic of my program.