Building Global Leadership to Optimize the Future of Traditional and Alternative Medicine

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Abstract

Health Care professionals are effective problem-solvers in a specific area of technology; leadership calls for a very different way of thinking and learning. Leadership development is a combination of experiential learning and programmed learning, including the conceptual frameworks of leadership, practice to integrate and apply the meta-cognitive skills of leadership, such as self-discovery of leadership identity and a movement towards mindfulness. Integral to this learning is the support of other leaders who provide a mixture of coaching and mentoring to sustain the new leader’s growth. Leadership education takes place beyond university in a context that broadens the career opportunities for health care professionals. In the USA leadership development education has a business focus, while in Canada it values sustainability and a holistic thinking, particularly in medical and applied sciences. Often professionals regard leadership training as a soft skill with less value in their technical field of practice and this presents a challenge for leaders in organizations or professional associations, who need to identify the preferred educational strategies to develop leadership or to risk using leaders without the essential technical expertise for strategic planning and decision-making. Employer surveys show an expectation that health care graduates have equivalent skills in technical expertise, business knowledge, and leadership. Learning leadership includes leadership practices to describe and quantify the leadership of individuals and to characterize the leadership of the specific group; secondly, a workshop on leadership education based on transformational learning and thirdly, formation of a community of leaders who advocate and further leadership development.

Keywords: Health care professionals; Leadership development; Traditional medicine; Alternative medicine

Introduction

In mid-September 2016, leading representatives of health care professionals from the five continents came together in Amsterdam for the 6th Annual Conference and Exhibition on Traditional and Alternative Medicine (TAMC 2016). They shared their respective biomedical practices, academic research, clinical and personal experiences regarding innovative, problem-solving approaches in various areas of medicine. Herein referred to as the TAM community, the health care professionals, academics, and researchers voiced and exchanged more specific to and relevant with Traditional and Alternative Medicine (TAM). We were invited to host a panel at TAMC 2016, which turned into an opportunity to observe the leadership development milieu of TAM. Leadership development calls for a very different way of thinking and learning; it reflects a mindset that continues to evolve and it is specific to professional groups and their environment. In the context of TAM, specific influences relate to global leadership and the relevant environmental factors have business and regulatory imperatives. The purpose of this paper is to contribute clarity and make connections between the various understandings of leadership development and recommends how the TAM community might proceed to optimize the future of TAM. The paper describes ways of learning leadership that are relevant and supportive of a community of health care professionals.

What is the direction of medicine and how are advances made? Historically, advances and innovation come through leadership and collaboration among peers. Traditional medicine practiced in larger institutions such as lends itself to identifying areas of challenge, communicating, and collaborating with peers and scientists to improve the patient experience. Larger organizations recognize that leaders are necessary to manage the inherent complexity of the environment in which health care professionals operate. Alternative medicine practices and traditional private practices tend to be relatively small with 1 to 5 employees. In these small settings leadership is not highlighted; but it is still very necessary, especially in regards to helping direct and grow the future of alternative medicine. Leadership skills enable health care professionals to manoeuvre and navigate in an increasingly ambiguous environment [1-5]. We review approaches to leadership development and explain how they can benefit healthcare professionals in the TAM community. We share how leadership skills are evident within the TAM community, and discuss some examples of how current thinking blends medical techniques from both Western medical physiology and acupuncture practices to treat many conditions that are not feasible through a single medical modality. Health care professionals are effective problem-solvers in their specialties; yet leadership requires a different combination of skills and a global mindset that is comfortable with change.

Through listening to the presentations at the conference, we learned about the mature research and expertise within the TAM community and it was evident that leaders were present. In this biomedical milieu, we observed several ways to perceive the nature of leadership During the conference, we gained an appreciation of the diversity of the TAM community through interaction and speaking in person with most

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Received December 31, 2016; Accepted January 23, 2017; Published January 27, 2017


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of the attendees. They came from very different areas of the globe, brought a wide range of healthcare practices and distinctive training orientations. Readily evident was the potential for leadership within the TAM community. We learned about this global health care community as the members’ presentations demonstrated thorough, research skills and documentation of their clinical studies and reports. In the TAM community, global leadership development is nascent and the practice of its health care professionals is sufficiently varied that this paper limits its focus to leadership development. By way of example, consider the global practice of Traditional Chinese Medicine in contrast to the Kampo medicine of Japan; the first is widely known, while the second is limited to Japan. We approach the subject of leadership development for these health care professionals in the global context; to explore the ability to lead in a variety of cultural contexts, both globally and locally, and in ways that honour diversity.

The Emergence of Global Leadership

In the late twentieth century, the business environment in most of the world became more dynamic as new technology, economics, and political changes forced business, government, and health organizations to deliver service differently. Globalization provided the impetus for change in the Western world; it began in 1980s and was critical to opening new markets and forcing established players to compete in different ways with the new entrants, and dramatically changing business organizations. In North America, many corporations were unprepared for the sweeping change and stumbled through massive downsizing of organizational structures to adapt to the new reality of global business. The dismantling of the USSR opened new markets for Russia and Eastern Europe, who became major players in global energy markets and a source of talent in mathematics, computer science, and medicine. Technological change had a considerable impact on traditional organizational structures, where the manager's role primarily related primarily to coordination across functions and businesses. Personal computers, networking innovations, and the cell phone enabled paperless communication and changed structures by eliminating layers of management in corporations and government services. Industry structures changed as technology enhanced manufacturing the global supply-chain evolved, and call center technology shifted most customer service to Asian countries. Owners, political leaders, and executive managers began to identify competencies as one ingredient to connecting individual performance to the ability to adapt to the frequency of change. This included a stronger focus on the future and a watchful eye on a broader range of strategic factors, both within and outside of the organizational system. It was evident that managing in the global context required adaptability and flexibility, and the ability to lead change was the impetus for implementing leadership development. Avolio used a graphic to illustrate an implementation process for leadership development in the later twentieth century [6-8]: Quinn, Anderson and Finkelstein’s Graphic of the Leadership Development Cycle (1996) (Figure 1).

In health care environments, new technology increases the requirements for professional development programs; these are critical to support health care professionals in the adoption of innovation and new practices. This is particularly relevant to professionals working in private or independent practice. In most professions, such as law, engineering, nursing, and teaching, professionals retain expertise through a combination of licensing and regulatory mandates that are unique to their state or country. Technical expertise is the easiest to recognize and reward in a profession and programs for updating technical expertise take priority. Around the globe, the Internet empowers patients with a vast array of information and raises their expectations of health service, specifically in the non-public delivery of health care. For example, the ability to book or pay online for health care services changed the business of health clinics with implications for stakeholders like health benefits providers, patient funding sources, health regulators, and the business tax systems. A broader range of stakeholders now participate in the interaction between the patient and the health care professional. When an injured Dutch policeman flies to Canada to receive an innovative health care service, the clinic leader takes responsibility to deliver the medical care and manage the cross-cultural business transactions on behalf of the patient. For the clinic to market and deliver services globally, the clinic’s health care professionals are competent leaders in their technical area of practice and in global business.

Advancements in the application of learning and curriculum development combined to provide ways of learning leadership that accelerate leadership development. Formal education provides the leader access to the theory and practice of leadership in existing management and leadership education programs. Often the missing elements of leadership development are access to the facilitated learning and the group learning that enhances visioning and relationship building, particularly in community with other professionals. Relevant to learning leadership skills is the distinction made between leadership and management; even though new definitions and interpretations prevail, the literature reveals an intricate entanglement of terminology [7]. Managers and leaders both acquire and manipulate capital, human resources, intellectual capital, and the tangible assets of property, equipment, and computing power. Managers focus on the current, present operations while leaders view a longer time horizon, have a stronger focus on the future, and have a visioning capability [9,10]. The history of management education provides a roadmap of curriculum development that demonstrates how to combine highly technical and analytical content into new ways of learning management and leadership [7,11]. As health care professionals consider ways to integrate leadership development into their growth, we recommend review of the history of learning leadership in business education as a useful preliminary [12]. Our definition of global leadership draws upon the program development done by Rowe et al. whose competency framework for a master’s degree in global leadership included the following [13]:

(A) Personal Leadership Working in a Global Context
- Self-Reflective Practice
- Resilience and personal Adaptability
- Self-in systems Management Capability

(B) Leading in a Diverse Global Contact
- Culture-General and Culture-Specific Knowledge
- Intercultural Interaction and Communication
- Intercultural Group Facilitation

(C) Leading Sustained Change in Complex Environments
- Knowledge of Global Political, Social, and Economic Issues
- Knowledge if International Organization Systems and Change Strategies
- Capability to Lead Change in Complex Environments
Rowe et al. offered a glimpse at the development process for an educational program in global leadership; they concluded it was a challenging endeavor, one requiring collaboration and guidance from a Consultative Committee. We suggest this experience provides the TAM community with yet another source for their exploration of leadership development; Rowe et al. reinforced these authors’ evidence that each community of professionals needs to design their leadership development initiatives to address the most relevant range of professional and environmental factors.

Foundational to the understanding of global leadership is the recognition that leadership is a process, not an outcome or product of attending an educational program. Rather, it is a continuous process of transforming oneself and others, while learning to identify situational factors and adapt to multiple roles. Leaders evolve through a combination of experience, learning, and behavioural change; and learning to lead requires recognition of the developmental nature of leadership and attention to the relationships between leaders and followers [6]. The emphasis on relationship building originates from the concept of transformational leadership and the dual roles of leaders and followers, who move in alignment intellectually and with a common moral purpose.) Bass showed an association between a leader’s moral values and the full range, transformational leadership style [8,14-17]. This contributed to learning leadership in new ways; and organizations began to train and develop for different leadership skills and competencies. Learning to lead began to place more emphasis on areas like reflective practice, professional conversations, and building community. Staying informed of developments in areas of medicine is more challenging than in the past and this makes learning how to adapt to change as one way to help shape the future of medicine. The dynamics of health care change redefine the competencies of health care professionals to pursue development that enables them to adapt, work collaboratively across technical disciplines and cultures [18].

Leadership Development

Leadership is about building relationships and the ability of the leader to influence change in others, whether he or she is leading a team, an organization, or a medical practice. Global leadership development requires a program of planned learning, designed for global contexts in ways that enhance the leader’s ability to navigate cross-cultural situations [13]. Leadership development programs commonly include learning current concepts and frameworks of leadership plus inclusion of experiential learning to integrate and apply the higher level or meta-cognitive skills, such as self-discovery and shared reflection. The prefix “meta” indicates a higher level of thinking, intended to develop the leader’s skills and abilities in areas like self-knowledge, emotional resilience, and personal drive [19]. Bird and Stevens identified three sub-dimensions of meta-cognitive skills specific to cross-cultural intelligence: awareness, planning, and checking. Awareness is the...
leader's ability to assess his or her sensitivity to a situation; planning includes the anticipation and preparation anticipates and prepares for leading the situation; and checking is the leader's ability to monitor his behaviour and actions for consistency with his plan [20].

Kaagan defined leadership development as the process of teaching leadership and suggested a mix of learning activities that promoted a safe, shared, adult learning experience [21]. He taught leadership that began with substantive learning of leadership theory followed by applied practice through a curriculum of learning activities. The learning activities integrated model of reflection-in-action, introducing professionals to tools for learning more disciplined thinking through reflection and inquiry [22]. By teaching leaders to use these skills, they learned to pause and examine their assumptions, reflect on individual experience, share, and test their assumptions with others, and reconstruct the experience in a future situation [23,24]. This process of critiquing and re-examining introduces a leader to an examination of situational factors and draws upon the multiple perspectives of others to develop different ways of thinking about his roles as a leader. This practice shows the integration of the transformational leadership style and that the leader's reflection involves all members of a team because it connects leaders to the experience of other leaders, and to the creation of a community [25-35].

Integral to learning leadership is the support of experienced leaders, whose roles include both coaching and mentoring to enable leaders' development and growth. In many professions, learning to lead encompasses both formal education and practice in a vibrant practice field that contributes to a professional culture that values leadership development. Ideally, the profession acknowledges the importance of leadership development and forms communities of learning and practice to nurture and sustain a professional culture that values leaders. Other essential leadership skills include communicating a commitment to the growth of new leaders and a willingness to challenge the status quo by speaking up and asking questions about the reasons for change [34]. Skills in leadership development include envisioning the future, the ability to work in a team, and the ability to teach and learn from followers. Leadership involves multiple roles of leading and following, of cooperation and collaboration, and of mediation and conflict resolution [36]. For professionals working in a health care system, all efforts are collective and intended to inspire and exceed the expectations of patients [18,37]. By learning the leadership skills to communicate and interact more effectively with their patients and colleagues, health care professionals enhance their leadership and contribute to growth of a community of likeminded individuals.

Skill development for new leaders includes learning how to communicate through dialogue and professional conversations. Sloan referred to the inclusion of dialogue [38] in the learning process for professionals because they practice communicating credible and legitimate perspectives that inform the views of all listeners. D'Arist and Kouzes and Posner reinforced the importance of the leader's credibility which is earned only through the leader's actions and behaviour [29]. Instruction that enables leaders to accelerate their learning of conversational skills includes executive coaching, and mentoring programs, which matches experienced leaders with new or emerging leaders in the profession [39,40]. In the 1990s, executive coaching provided a teaching approach for leaders to explore and experiment their reality and begin their reflective practice and leadership behaviour with the aid of facilitated learning [41]. Canadian researchers, [42], used an apprenticeship model to describe a leadership development approach that combined formal and informal education through an experiential, adult learning scaffold. Guiding the apprentice's learning were artisans, mentors, and adequate practice time to refine the new leader's skills. The apprentice model focuses on learning a craft and provides a suitable model for the developmental journey of a leader. A graphic representation of this apprenticeship model of leadership is shown in Figure 2 Optimal Program Design for Leadership Development. In an organizational context of business or government, a struggle emerges with respect to the choices for succession planning and how to combine the technical expertise with business thinking for the future success of the organization [43]. This presents a challenge to the senior leaders, who wrestle with the dilemma of choosing the preferred educational strategies to develop leaders for succession. Lessons learned in business education and in the applied sciences offer insights for the health care milieu of TAM. When leaders learn competencies in global leadership, they are more likely to remain with an organization and contribute strategically to the growth of the organization. Themes are also important in leadership development programs because they reflect the accumulated values that contribute to the legacy of a profession or an organization [2]. In other words, the values and beliefs of the TAM community need to resonate in the choices made for leadership development programs and initiatives.

Leadership development is a process that takes place over a period of years; it is a continuous process, requiring attention to the leader's context, the country in which he practices and the forces of change that will influence the growth of the health care practice. Leadership education is the combination of learning and development that fosters and supports the leader's growth and the design of the educational program is specific to a target population or cohort of leaders. In Canada, Henein and Morissette described leadership education as an invisible field of study with a lack of leadership education and developmental pathways for leaders [42]. In a global community like TAM, one remedy is to initiate programs for leadership development that coincide with the annual conferences. This approach is particularly significant for professionals who operate in independent, private practice and look to the annual conference for an opportunity to share their knowledge and practices and network with members of the community. In a professional community that is global, members initially look to their local leaders for guidance and direction; and this was observable in the TAM community during the conference in Amsterdam.

In the US, nursing education was the first profession to integrate leadership development into the undergraduate university curriculum.
In Canada, Kilty reviewed programs for nursing leadership development and found a vibrant culture for learning leadership within the profession. Throughout the country, nursing leadership development programs were available through nursing associations, union-sponsored programs, educational institutes, and nursing centers, and in university nursing programs. Internationally, nursing leadership development programs existed in Australia, Sweden, the US, and the UK. One impressive initiative was known as Leadership for Change (LFC) and involved 50 countries in the Caribbean, in Latin America, in the south Pacific, in East, Central and Southern Africa and in Southeast Asia. LFC used an action-learning approach for nurse leaders and potential leaders; and the program design included five inter-related components: workshops, individual development planning, team projects, structured learning activities between workshops, and mentoring. These program components were adapted to meet differing requirements of the host countries. By attending the LFC program, nursing professionals learned how to address the changing health care policy within their countries and, at the same time, how to adapt to global health care practice. Lilly produced a template for nursing leadership development, which indicates the advanced nature of leadership development in the nursing profession. See Figure 3 Graphic of Nursing Leadership Development. Another example of a profession that incorporated learning leadership into university programs for the profession of engineering, MacIntyre proposed a framework for learning leadership in engineering education [45], see the Figure 4 Conceptual Framework for Learning Leadership.

In the medical practice of physicians is an awareness about the differences between medicine and leadership. Barnhart characterizes the role of the physician leader as the “physician whiplash”; that is, success as a physician is completely contrary to success as a leader [46]. The author shows how medicine became more team based and the necessity of the physician to adapt by learning leadership skills in teamwork, cross-disciplinary collaboration, and a future orientation. The tension for the physician leader is comparable to that of business leaders, nursing leaders, and educational leaders who wrestle with letting go of their expertise. Another way of expressing this tension is developing the courage to lead without the contingency of owning the knowledge; leaders who learn to let go of the technical expertise and shift focus to leading or the only professional who can resolve the health issue. See Table 1. A table on the contrasting roles of a physician between traditional medical doctor and leader. Programs for leadership development require a combination of experiential learning and programmed learning, including understanding the history of leadership education and practice in skills in a way that helps the leaders integrate meta-cognitive skills. Meta-cognitive skills refer to thinking about how one is thinking; it’s focus is on learning how to lead through examination of one’s inner before attempting to lead others.

Self-discovery through reflective practice initiates meta-cognitive thinking; and as the leader evolves, reflective practice may achieve mindfulness [19,47]. Self-discovery contributes to increasing a new leader’s self-awareness and it is a learned practice. An integral part of this learning experience is the support of other leaders in the profession, who provide a mixture of advocacy, coaching, and mentoring to sustain the new leader’s growth. Mentoring relies on a supportive community of experienced leaders who willingly invest their time to share knowledge, and experience through leadership stories [48]. By the twenty-first century, leadership emphasized growth through collaboration and leading with a clear alignment between the leader’s vision, moral focus, and ethical behavior [34,49]. Advancements in new ways of learning and integration of courses on leadership programs proved to accelerate leadership development in business, schools, post-secondary education, and in nursing. Formal education includes delivery of university based management and leadership programs; they provide access to leadership theory, models and frameworks, and the history of exemplary political and business leaders. Usually, the missing elements of leadership development in formal education are access to the facilitated learning and the group learning that enhances visioning and relationship building. According to Ely and Rhode leadership development is a combination of learning conceptual frameworks of leadership, practice to integrate and apply the skills of leadership, self-discovery of one’s leadership identity, and support through coaching and mentoring to sustain the leader’s growth. Learning to lead in new ways evolved quickly and enabled leaders in many professions to emerge and grow.

Reflective Practice
Reflective practice is self-exploration, an examination of one’s beliefs and values and questioning the assumptions and reasoning behind one’s actions and behavior. Use of reflective practice began with [22] work on teaching business professionals how to reflect and remain a seminal work in management education. Brookfield integrated reflective practice into education for new teachers and claimed that the teachers improved their ability to facilitate student learning [50]. Densten and Gray stressed the importance of integrating reflective practice into learning leadership to help leaders connect leadership theory to their experience of leadership [51]. Cunliffe went beyond self-reflection to emphasize critical thinking and taught leadership using a philosopher’s metaphor of three intertwining threads including relational leadership, moral activity, and reflexivity [52]. Reflexivity incorporates reflection through conversations, a means of questioning accepted assumptions and behavior in business decision-making through open dialogue among group members. Relational leadership builds on social learning, in the recognition that leaders exist only in the context of their relationships with followers, emphasizing the leader’s role cannot exist in isolation of his followers. Cunliffe’s inclusion of moral activity might be a response to the corporate scandals and unethical behavior of the first decade of the twenty-first century in the US and the UK [52]. Her research deepened understanding of how to teach leadership, with attention to strengthening the leader’s ability to develop relationships and lead with a moral purpose.

Professional Conversations
In Scotland, Alexandrou et al. identified professional conversations as the mechanism for teacher leaders to move from their private reflection, to dialogue, and to public exchange in their field of practice [2]. Leaders whose career pathway is in a corporate, health, or government setting are more likely to learn professional conversations as part of in-house training and executive coaching services, or through executive management programs [41,38,53]. The key benefit of learning how to engage in a professional conversation is an accelerated leadership development; and for leaders whose post-secondary education is in education or applied sciences, executive coaching teaches them conversational skills, preparing them for the multi-faceted demands of leading others [1]. Research on leadership and coaching is more substantive from academics in physician and nursing education [54,55], in psychology [56-58], and in women’s leadership development [59], and provided extensive literature on the pedagogy of leadership. New ways of teaching leadership emerged as group learning replaced individual reflective practice and leaders were taught relational
Figure 3: Graphic for nursing leadership development.

Figure 4: Conceptual framework for learning leadership [45].
The Nature of Medicine | The Nature of Leadership
---|---
Prescribe and expect compliance | Lead, influence and collaborate
Immediate and short-term focus and results | Short-, medium- and long-term focus and results
Procedures/episodes | Complex processes over time
Relatively well-defined problems | Ill-defined, messy problems
Individual or small-team focus | Larger groups crossing many boundaries, integrated approach
Being the expert and carrying the responsibility | Being one of many experts and sharing the responsibility
Receiving lots of thanks | Encountering lots of resistance
Respect and trust of colleagues | Suspicion of being a “suit”

| Table 1: A table on the contrasting roles of a physician between traditional medical doctor and leader [46].

leadership [52]. As noted by Garcia, the leader’s thinking is incomplete unless it incorporates dialogue and reflection with others [55]. Leaders require a practice field for shared reflection, experience, and deliberate learning. In the organizational context, Garcia’s approach suggested a practice field for the woman engineer leader that expands critical thinking to a wider range of issues related to the organization’s culture and its social responsibility [55]. These critical skills can be learned through coaching and mentoring, which generate the professional conversations on her leadership.

Community

In the context of learning leadership, it is well known that interaction between leaders provides trigger events for leadership development [6]. When a senior leader acknowledges the leadership qualities of an emerging leader, she leaves the meeting feeling validated as a leader. This is an example of a positive trigger event that contributes to leadership development through role modelling and positive reinforcement; and the outcome is that both grow as leaders. Learning leadership necessitates a community of practice where leaders converse and share what they learned in their actions as leaders. Community of practice is metaphor for a learning process that is socially constructed, interactive, and conversational. The intent is to open a learning space that enables leaders to share tacit knowledge and move towards a vision of leadership for the profession. Coordination of formal and informal learning takes place through networking, mentoring, coaching, and learning conversations [2]. The purpose of this community is to create a culture of leadership development in which professionals articulate, share, and learn leadership. Building on a capacity for shared learning, the leaders begin an incremental movement to define the most relevant dimensions and context for their community [13,60,61] reinforced the proactive responsibilities of senior leaders to develop leaders by investing time to sponsor and promote inclusive leadership development. Like the intricacies of management education versus leadership education, leadership development requires a combination of learning that is transformational, contextual, and experiential. As noted by Garcia, the leader’s thinking is incomplete unless it incorporates dialogue and reflection with others [55]. Leaders require a practice field for shared reflection, experience, and deliberate learning; this is the purpose of community.

Leadership Practices

The Leadership Practices Inventory (LPI) is a self-assessment tool for a new leader with a starting point for leadership development; the results of the LPI help the new leader to gain a picture of his current leadership strengths. Completing a self-assessment and reflecting on the results is an experiential learning activity. Leadership philosophy begins with a focus on the strengths of the leader and provides both positive and generative beginning. The purpose of self-assessment is to quantify and describe the leader’s behaviour, giving the professional a view of herself in the context of leadership and providing a source of information for reflection.

We use the leadership practices inventory, the LPI-Self, to describe and quantify the leadership capacity of health care professionals; and herein refer to it as the LPI. Kouzes and Posner [29] developed the model, known as the leadership challenge, from research on personal-best experiences of leadership. Kouzes and Posner developed the LPI to reflect the transformational leadership of accomplished leaders and evidence continues to support their claims [27]. The LPI organizes behavioural statements of successful leaders into five leadership practices; and the authors claim leadership is a learned behaviour developed through study of the five practices. The inventory includes thirty statements of behaviour and actions that are rated on a 10 point Likert scale with statements grouped into five leadership practices or subscales: “modelling the way” by role modelling, and affirming shared values; “inspire a shared vision” by visualizing the future through a visioning process involving all stakeholders; “challenge the process” through fostering risks, innovative ways of improvement by reflecting on experiences; “enable others to act” through creation of learning processes and building trusting relationships; and “encourage the heart” by demonstrating appreciation, celebrating the values and achievements of teams [33]. In addition, Kouzes and Posner created another leadership assessment tool that includes feedback from a leader’s peers, subordinates, and senior leaders and it is known as the LPI-Observer. Feedback is an essential competency for leaders and a feedback tool like the LPI-Observer provides input for a leader to identify and plan for his leadership development.

The reliability of the LPI was measured by the internal consistency of the participant’s ratings of the 30 statements of leadership behaviour that summed to form the total score for the five subscales. Cronbach alpha reliability was conducted on each of the sub-scales. Acceptable reliability (α>0.70) was found for inspire a shared vision, enabling others to act, and encouraging the heart. Challenge the process had questionable reliability (α>0.60) while unacceptable reliability (α<0.60) was found for modelling the way. Kouzes and Posner identified face validity of the LPI as accounting for most of the validity, due to the subjective evaluation of the LPI by leaders who participated previously in the authors’ research [27]. The authors reported that participants identified with the language of leadership used in the thirty statements of the LPI. The language or vocabulary described the personal best experience of their own or another leader’s; this contributed to the conclusion that the LPI had face validity. Other measures of the validity of the LPI included the statistical measure of factor analysis to support the discriminatory validity of the LPI [62-64]. Vito and Higgins used factor analysis to test the construct validity of the LPI for use by a specific group of police managers [65]. They found the LPI was valid for police leadership performance and a valid construct for assessing the leadership capabilities in law enforcement agencies.

The LPI is a psychometrically evaluated instrument [26,27,62]. It has proven construct validity for groups in nursing, teaching, educational leadership, and law enforcement, despite significant changes in the business environment over the past decades [65-70]. Research on the leadership practices for a sample of Canadian women engineers revealed an ease with valuing relationships across cultures, disciplines, and the many domains business, health, and government that engineering touches [45]. Enable others to act was their dominant
leadership practice; strength in this leadership practice indicates a collaborative style of interaction and engagement, a reliance on trust and commitment, and respectful behaviour to their followers. Leadership actions that enhances relationships between leaders and followers includes active listening, attention to diverse perspectives, and support for decisions made by followers. The results for the group of women engineers also revealed their comfort with strengthening their followers’ capability, including followers’ aspirations for leadership, which is a significant role of a transformational leader [71].

Waite, McKinney et al. used a student’s version of the LPI to assess leadership skills in a cohort of undergraduate health care students in an interdisciplinary 9-month leadership program at a private, American university [18]. The program design included three consecutive terms. In the first term, students engaged in self-examination by questioning their beliefs, values, reliance on power structures, sensibilities to diversity, and personal experiences that influence their thoughts and actions. This learning process deepened their self-awareness and enabled them to articulate a leadership philosophy. In the second term, students explored group dynamics by assessing their behaviour in teams and how well they communicated, resolved conflict, and planned. By addressing topics like prejudice, privilege, stereotyping, social identity, oppression, and personality they began to assess capacity for leading. In the third term, students addressed the community roles of leaders through the lens of social justice; they explored the social determinants of health, sources of power and inequalities, and the power of community to organize and promote health. Teaching or pedagogical strategies that facilitated the leadership learning included reflective exercises, leadership briefs, group debates, engaging guests and panel speakers, individual and team projects, service learning projects, diversity and privilege exercise, fishbowl activities, cultural autobiography, mind mapping, and action learning projects [18]. For the educators who designed this 9-month leadership development program, they realized students entered the health care environment better able to function on diverse, interdisciplinary teams and more confident about leadership roles at the beginning of their professional careers [71-102].

Conclusions and Recommendations

The authors’ approach to leadership development is guided by the belief that the proof of successful global leadership resides in achievement of measurable improvements in health outcomes. In the short-term, measures include a comparison of the use of a health care service from one period to another; or changes in the knowledge, attitudes, and receptivity of the health care services by a patent or client group. The content of a leadership development program includes designed learning for reflective practice, professional conversations, and building community [102-121]. Learning leadership includes leadership practices to describe and quantify the leadership of students entered the health care environment better able to function on diverse, interdisciplinary teams and more confident about leadership roles at the beginning of their professional careers [71-102].

• What defines global leadership in traditional and alternative health care?
• What are the characteristics of a global leader in TAM?
• Why is global leadership important to health care practice?

As progress moves to program design, endeavour to connect leadership development content to the context of the health care professional’s work environment, with specific attention to the cross-cultural issues of global, health care business. This paper reviewed literature and cited practical applications and examples in global leadership, leadership development, and leadership practices with the intention of exposing conference attendees to the possibilities of leadership development in the TAM community. Ultimately, the measurement of the results of the global leadership development program are the changes in health service delivery, such as increase in the number of patients or improved quality of service.

References


