Speeding Ahead: Assessing Trends in Distance Librarian Services for Advanced Practice Nursing Programs

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What is Advanced Practice Nursing?

- Nurse Practitioners
- Nurse Midwives
- Clinical Nurse Specialists
- Nurse Anesthetists

Photo courtesy Stony Brook School of Nursing
Expansion of Advanced Practice Nursing Role

United States

• Present Status of Nurse Practitioner Practice Scope *(Kaiser Family Foundation)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NPs May Diagnose/Treat Patients without Physician Involvement</th>
<th>Physician Involvement Requirements for NPs Diagnosing/Treating Patients</th>
<th>NP Independent Prescribing Authority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>States: 33 Yes / 18 No</td>
<td>10 Collaborative Agreements / 8 Physician Supervision</td>
<td>24 Yes / 27 No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Canada

• NPs can independently diagnose and prescribe in all provinces
Expansion of Advanced Practice Nursing Role

Growing Number of Schools Offering Some Form of Advanced Practice Programs

- AACN - **420** Institutions offering:
  - RN to MSN
  - BSN to DNP
  - BSN to PhD.
  - Masters
  - Entry-Level Masters
  - MSN to DNP
  - PhD
  - DNP

Percentage of US nursing students over 30 years old (2015-2016) *(National League of Nursing)*

- RN diploma: 21.4
- BSN: 12.6
- MSN: 44.6
- Doctorate: 81.7
Methodology

- 10 objective multiple-choice questions, administered through Qualtrics
- IRB approved at Stony Brook
- Survey administered in October 2017
- Publicized through mailing lists and social media
  - MEDLIB-L, CANMEDLIB, MLA chapter listservs, NAHRS, targeted emails
  - Twitter posts
- Results analyzed through Qualtrics and Excel
Results

A convenience sample of 105 surveys was gathered:

- Number of respondents indicating YES to APN programs = 90
- Number of completed surveys = 80
Types of APN Programs

Types of APN Programs Offered

- Nurse Practitioner (any type): 78
- Nurse Midwife: 15
- Nurse Anesthetist: 24
- Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS): 24
- Other: 12
Types of APN Programs

Types of APN Degrees Offered by Institutions

- Doctorate: 65
- Masters: 66
- Graduate Certificate: 29
- Other: 4
What is the format of APN programs?

Q5: “Does your university offer APN programs in a distance format?”

PROGRAM FORMAT (ALL NORTH AMERICA)

- Completely Online: 66%
- Hybrid format: 9%
- In person (traditional): 9%
- Not sure: 16%
Question 6: “What types of research service (answering basic questions, providing consultations) have you provided to NP students within the past year?”
Question 7: “Of the contact methods mentioned above, which one has been the most common?”

- In person: 31
- Email: 33
- Phone: 4
- Online Chat: 3
- Video Chat: 5
- Other: 1
- None: 1
Question 8: “What types of instruction services have you provided for APN classes?”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructional Format</th>
<th>Number of Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In person</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online (no video)</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Video</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Question 9: “Of the instruction methods mentioned above, which one has been the most common?”
Question 10: “How comfortable do you feel using online technology to provide instruction and research services?”

- Extremely comfortable: 40%
- Moderately comfortable: 44%
- Slightly comfortable: 11%
- Slightly uncomfortable: 4%
- Neither comfortable nor uncomfortable: 1%
Limitations and Lessons Learned

- Self-selected respondent pool—not necessarily representative of all APN programs
  - Some states/provinces overrepresented or underrepresented
  - Possible multiple responses from same institution
- “Other” responses (should have provided space for describing their “other” activities)
- Should have asked for permission to follow-up with respondents
Take-Aways and Opportunities

- No “one size fits all” solution
- Even for programs that are offered in a traditional format, online research services and instruction offer more opportunities for engagement with APN students
- Need to promote the possibilities with nursing faculty and students through greater outreach and collaboration
- Librarians need to explore professional development opportunities to become more comfortable and effective in the online environment
References

https://tinyurl.com/yc7pjj9x