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The Australian Primary Care Nursing Workforce 2015

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The Australian Primary Care Nursing Workforce 2015

Abstract

Abstract of a poster presented at the 2015 PHC Research Conference, 29-31 July, Adelaide, Australia.

Disciplines

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The Australian Primary Care Nursing Workforce 2015

2015 PHC RESEARCH CONFERENCE: POSTER ABSTRACT

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Organisation

[University of Wollongong](#)

Aims & rationale

There has been exponential growth in the number of nurses employed in the Australian primary health care sector. The working environment of primary health care is significantly different to acute care. The business model underpinning general practice, the lack of nursing infrastructure within the workplace and the complex relationships between nurses and other health professionals all impact on the nurses' workplace experience, their professional development opportunities, career progression and job satisfaction. Despite the positive policy environment for the growth of nursing in primary health care, there has been limited monitoring and evaluation of this workforce growth. To strengthen the evidence-base for primary care nursing and support quality outcomes it is essential to develop a better understanding of the contributions of these nurses to the health system, the nature of this workforce and the barriers and facilitators to workforce development.

Methods

An online survey will be conducted during March 2015 and a final report provided to the Department of Health by June 30th 2015.

Findings

Data will provide an insight into the current demographics, work conditions, job satisfaction and career intentions of nurses currently employed in Australian primary health care. These data will be contrasted with longitudinal survey data to demonstrate changes over time.

Relevance to policy, research and/or practice needs

Understanding the primary care nursing workforce is essential to supporting this group to provide high quality nursing care to meet the growing needs of the community. The contemporary nature of the data will provide current insights.

Presentation type

Poster

Session theme

Workforce

Citation

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