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Knowledge and Use of a Nursing Professional Practice Model at a Critical Access Hospital

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**Background**

- Nursing Professional Practice Model (NPPM) is a visual representation of nursing practice, communication, collaboration, and professional development.
- NPPM is critical to autonomous nursing practice.
- Importance within healthcare organization is demonstrated by inclusion in Magnet Model Component of Exemplary Professional Practice.
- Provide insight into critical nursing issues.
- To achieve Pathway to Excellence Designation and/or prepare for Magnet Journey, understanding impact of NPPM on patient outcomes is of utmost importance.
- Because NPPMs evolve over time, clear definitions of NPPM components are necessary to evaluate their continued usefulness and guide future model refinement.

**Methods**

- Observational cross-sectional design.
- Mariners Hospital (MH) convenience sample.
- Reliability and Validity judged by MH Chief Nursing Officer and Director of Nursing using 4-point Likert-type scale to measure each items’ relevance and extent that they reflect intentions.
- 13-item Demographic Questionnaire.
- Mariners Hospital Nursing Professional Practice Model Survey: 45 item Likert-type scale.
- Survey open to registered nurses, nurse practitioners, nurse leaders, and clinical partners.
- Employed at MH for greater than 90 days.

**Purpose**

- Design and pilot test the use of the Mariners Hospital NPPM-specific instrument (survey).
- Investigate the level of knowledge and use in daily practice of Mariners Hospital Nursing Professional Practice Model (NPPM) among registered nurses, nurse practitioners, nurse leader.

**Results**

- The validity and reliability of the Mariners Hospital (MH) NPPM instrument was established through content validity and Cronbach alpha, and was found to be acceptable.
- The MH-NPPM instrument (survey) determined the level of knowledge and use of the MH-NPPM in nurses and clinical partners working at MH and showed that the tool is able to distinguish between those who use and integrate the model into practice and those who do not. The MH-NPPM instrument score can vary between 45 and 315, a higher score indicating a higher agreement with the usefulness of the NPPM.
- Of the 38 respondents who answered the questions “Do you know the core concepts of the MH–NPPM?”, only 6 (15.8%) answered no. Of the 39 respondents who answered the questions “Do you feel you understand how the MH-NPPM relates to daily practice?”, only 6 (15.4%) answered no. Finally, of the 39 respondents who answered the questions “Do you use the MH-NPPM in your daily practice?”, 10 (25.6%) answered no. The table shows how the scores on the MH-NPPM are significantly lower for those who have lower knowledge and those who do not make use of the model in their daily practice.

**Sample Questions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample Questions</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Mann-Whitney U</th>
<th>p-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do you know the core concepts of the Mariners Hospital Nursing Professional Practice Model?</td>
<td>N = 32</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD = 23.8</td>
<td>Median = 238.5</td>
<td>IQR = 183-274</td>
<td>z = 2.141</td>
<td>P = 0.032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you feel you understand how the Mariners Hospital Nursing Professional Practice Model relates to daily practice?</td>
<td>N = 33</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD = 230.2</td>
<td>Median = 240.0</td>
<td>IQR = 184-277</td>
<td>z = 2.405</td>
<td>P = 0.016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you use the Mariners Hospital Nursing Professional Practice Model in your daily practice?</td>
<td>N = 29</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD = 57.3</td>
<td>Median = 260.0</td>
<td>IQR = 184-279</td>
<td>z = 2.640</td>
<td>P = 0.008</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Conclusion**

- Nursing Professional Practice Models (NPPM) are valuable in promoting excellence in nursing practice.
- It is crucial for nurses of all levels to understand the components of their NPPM and how they use it as a guide in their daily practice.
- Having a theme diagram such as MH-NPPM not only shows the interacting parts of the model but helps nurses to better understand its purpose.
- This study revealed nurses and clinical partners at Mariners Hospital are highly knowledgeable about the NPPM and understand how the model guides them in their daily practice.

**References**

- American Nurses Credentialing Center