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*Women's
Health*

Findings From a Sexual and Reproductive Health and Abortion Care Survey of California Nurses

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Keywords

nursing workforce
sexual and reproductive health
abortion care provision

Poster Presentation

Objective

To determine the awareness of California nurses about recent legislative changes that expanded the practice of nurses who provide sexual and reproductive health care and abortion care.

Design

Valid and reliable paper and online anonymous surveys were used to collect data.

Setting

Currently employed, registered nurses in California were eligible to participate.

Sample

A random sample from actively licensed nurses based on Board of Registered Nursing rosters was invited to enroll in the study.

Methods

Institutional review board approval was obtained, and anonymous surveys and return envelopes were sent to 2,500 nurses. Participants received remuneration.

Results

To date, 422 nurses returned surveys with complete data, 47 completed the survey online, and 172 surveys were returned unopened. The total sample with useable data included in this analysis is currently 469 (response rate = 19%). Participants are mostly women (87%), between the ages of 50 and 69 (66%), who were born in California (40%). Only 75% of participants self-identified as White. The majority of participants reported religious or spiritual affiliation (74%), less than half participate in professional organizations (48%), and most were not aware of the laws (86%–88%). Strikingly, 52% of participants felt competent to provide sexual, reproductive, and/or abortion care, despite the frequency at which they reported working with people of reproductive age.

Conclusion/Implications for Nursing Practice

Before initiation of new legislation to expand nursing practice, attention should be given to professional readiness and competence of nurses to provide the care expanded under the law.

Experiences of Women With Unintended Pregnancies in Their Twenties Who Chose Open Adoption

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Objective

To describe the experiences of women in their twenties regarding open adoption.

Design

Naturalistic inquiry with thematic analysis of interviews.

Setting

Phone interviews.

Sample

Fifteen birth mothers who were in their twenties at time of placement.

Methods

Interviews were recorded, transcribed, de-identified, and analyzed for qualitative themes.

Results

Open adoption placement was a hard initial decision, but ongoing contact was valued. Most felt