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A survey of leadership and research activities of nurse practitioners

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Introduction

Nurse Practitioners (NP) provide improved access to quality healthcare for identified patient populations. NPs are identified as the ideal conduit to transform healthcare delivery internationally. Transforming healthcare requires the application of leadership and research skills. The literature to date has limited information on NPs as leaders or researchers in the nursing profession.

Aims

1. Identify Leadership and research activities of NPs in Ireland and Australia.
2. Establish if leadership and research activities are the same for NPs in Ireland and Australia
3. To ascertain if there is a link between NP leadership and research.

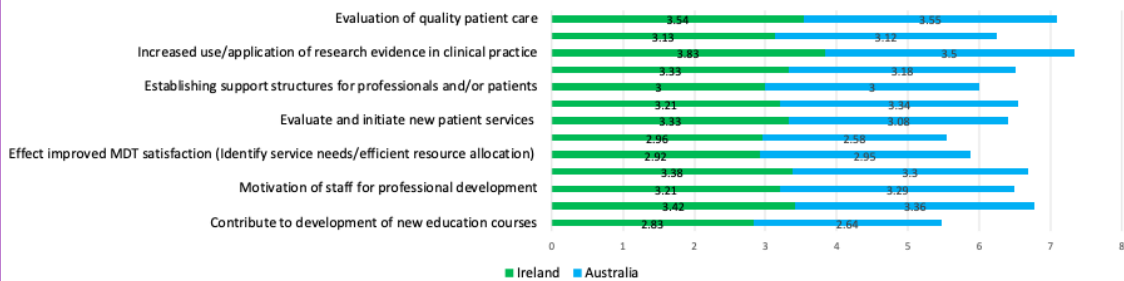
Methods: An anonymous electronic survey was used. Data was collected in May and June 2017 from members of two professional NP national associations.

A survey of leadership and research activities of Nurse Practitioners

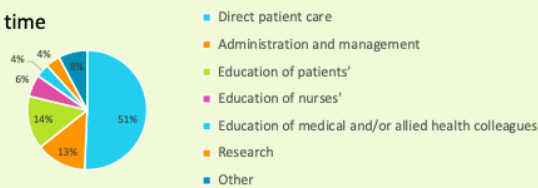
Results:

96 (77%) valid responses Mean Leadership Score 7.5 (0-10), participants from both countries identified themselves as leaders. Leadership score significantly increased with each age category and number of years authorized to practice as NP. Leadership and research activities for NPs in both countries were similar.

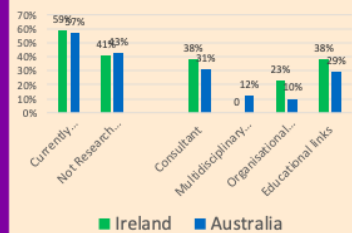
Compare Mean leadership activity between country



Mean % of work time



Percentage of Respondents Research active and Research Support



Conclusion:

Nurse Practitioners in both Ireland and Australia identify themselves as leaders of the nursing profession. NP work practices are primarily focused on provision of direct patient care. Research activity is lacking among NPs. Leadership ability influences research outcomes for NPs in both Ireland and Australia. Research support increases research activity.

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