Global Signature Recognition for Nurse Practitioners in California

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Background

- California is one of 15 states in the nation with a regulatory structure that restricts nurse practitioner (NP) practice, including the lack of a global approach to signature recognition
- Global statutes authorize NPs to: “sign, attest, certify, stamp, verify, endorse, or provide an affidavit for any form that a physician can supply, provided it is within the nurse practitioner’s scope of practice”

Purpose Statement

- To develop a roadmap to action using a Delphi technique to support legislation for global signature recognition (GSR) for NPs in California

Policy Delphi

- Purposive sampling followed by snowball sampling: clinical NPs, nursing faculty, nursing administrators, physicians, leaders in nursing organizations/ agencies

  Round 1: 21/33 participants (63.64%)
  Development of emerging themes

  Round 2: 19/21 participants (90.47%)
  Clarity for effect and relevance

  Round 3: 13/19 participants (68.42%)
  Determine Benefits, Feasibility, Importance, and Confidence

Results

Participants Views on the Benefits, Feasibility, Importance of GSR and their Confidence of its Attainability in California

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefits</th>
<th>Feasibility</th>
<th>Importance</th>
<th>Confidence</th>
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<tr>
<td>Impact on patients, practice, or work setting</td>
<td>92.31</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>92.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Negative impact on patients, practice &amp; delivery of healthcare</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>92.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Positive impact on patients, practice &amp; delivery of healthcare</td>
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<td>Addressing limitations, obstacles and challenges with legislation</td>
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<td>100</td>
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<td>Mitigating limited understanding/knowledge base of NPs by public</td>
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<td>84.61</td>
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<td>Addressing challenges from payors/service organizations</td>
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<td>Reducing limitations, obstacles and challenges</td>
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<td>76.92</td>
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<td>Implementing recommendations to reduce risks</td>
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<td>84.62</td>
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<td>NPs obtaining global signature recognition</td>
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<td>92.45</td>
<td>100</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Themes Defining a Roadmap to Action

1. Barriers to NP practice: GSR
   - Includes: barriers for NPs
   - Facilitates comprehensive care
   - Improves patient access/streamlines care
   - Enables ability to sign death certificates

2. Effect on physicians: GSR
   - Streamlines physician workflow
   - Ensures role of physicians is not diminished
   - Improves coordination/efficiency of care
   - Patient, staff, physician satisfaction
   - Recognizes the care NPs can provide

3. Education focus:
   - NP training/knowledge of their scope of practice
   - Strengthen public knowledge and understanding of NP scope of practice
   - NP students receive training/knowledge of NP scope of practice
   - Agencies’ recognition of NP signatures

4. Cost
   - Educating NPs on GSR
   - Redesigning forms to include NP
   - Containing rising costs of healthcare with implementation of GSR

Conclusion

Roadmap to global signature recognition

- Focus on the patient
- Benefits to physicians
- Educate NPs on scope of practice
- Educate agencies/public on role of NP
- Contain costs
COMMUNICATION CHANNELS
PRIOR CONDITIONS: Previous practice; Needs/problems, Innovativeness, Norms of the social systems

I. KNOWLEDGE
- States with global signature recognition
- Research studies on NP practice
- IOM report
- Consensus Model
- Delphi study

Educate/Engage Stakeholders:
- NPs
- Physicians
- NP organizations
- Nursing organizations
- Patients/consumers
- Healthcare agencies

Communicate
- Publications
- Data bases
- Social media
- Workshops
- Conferences
- Face-to-face encounters
- Address Concerns
- Medicine/Physicians
- BRN

Key talking points
- Determine the message
- Clarify the message
- Amendments if needed

II. PERSUASION

III. DECISION

IV. IMPLEMENTATION
1. Adoption
   - Continued Adoption
   - Late Adoption
2. Rejection
   - Discontinuation
   - Continued Adoption

V. CONFIRMATION

Adoption
- Secure legislative sponsor
- Secure lobbyist

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- Impact on patients, practice, or work setting
- Negative impact on patients, practice & delivery of healthcare
- Positive impact on patients, practice & delivery of healthcare
- Addressing limitations, obstacles and challenges with legislation
- Mitigating limited understanding/knowledge base of NPs by public
- Addressing challenges from payors/service organizations
- Reducing limitations, obstacles and challenges
- Implementing recommendations to reduce risks
- NPs obtaining global signature recognition