Nursing Practice in Rural and Remote Canada II

Yukon

Research Question
What is the nature of nursing practice in rural and remote Canada?

Survey Methods
Survey mailed to 9,622 eligible nurses (RNs, NPs, RPNs, LPNs)
All nurses in the territories & stratified systematic sample in every province
Canada-wide response rate: 40% (N=3,822)
YK response rate: 44% (N=219)

Demographics
- 5% work in a fly-in community
- 22% work in a community <2,500
- 92% are female
- 20% are employed in a casual position
- 84% live in their primary work community
- 29% are 55 years of age or older

Highest nursing education
- RNs
  - 60% Bachelor’s
  - 33% Diploma
  - 7% Master’s or Doctorate
- NPs
  - 100% Master’s
- LPNs
  - 100% Diploma
- RPNs
  - 100% Diploma

Workplace
- RNs
  - 41% Hospital
  - 33% Community health
  - 17% Nursing Home
  - 9% Other
- NPs
  - 33% Community health
- LPNs
  - 68% within
  - 27% below
  - 5% beyond
- RPNs
  - 100% within

Perceived scope
- RNs
  - 86% within
  - 9% below
  - 5% beyond
- NPs
  - 100% within
- LPNs
  - 68% within
  - 27% below
  - 5% beyond
- RPNs
  - 100% within

Career plans
- Planning to leave position within the next 12 months:
  - 25% of all YK nurses
  - 28% of LPNs
  - 25% of RNs
- Of these nurses:
  - 31% plan to nurse in the same community
  - 31% plan to relocate within Canada

YK Nurse Recruitment Factors
- YK nurses were more likely to hold a casual position than rural Canada nurses
- YK RNs were slightly younger and more likely to hold a bachelor’s degree as their highest credential in comparison to rural Canada RNs
- A greater proportion of YK RNs held a rural and remote certificate than rural RNs in Canada overall
- YK nurses were less likely to work in a hospital setting and more likely to work in a community health setting than rural Canada nurses
- This study makes an important contribution by providing a comprehensive overview of rural and remote nurses’ practice and communities within each Canadian province and territory

Take Home Messages

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For more details, please see the YK fact sheet http://ruralnursing.unbc.ca

Professional: advanced practice opportunities; career; interest in practice setting. Job-Related: benefits; flexibility of work; income. Personal & Community: spouse employment/transfer; family or friends; lifestyle; location