COVID-19 Conversations

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COVID19Conversations.org
#COVID19Conversations
School Nurses: Frontline Healthcare Providers in Schools
School Nurse Workforce


- 35.3% of schools employ part-time school nurses (< 35 hours)
- 39.3% of schools employ full-time school nurses (> 35 hours)
- Across the country 25.2% of schools did not employ a school nurse
April 2020 School Nurse Survey: Impact of COVID-19
Participants: N=4788 - All 50 states & DC - 92% Frontline school nurses

Role of School Nurses During COVID-19

• Student Outreach
  • 54% reached students at risk;
  • 32% assisted with meal delivery

• Health Resources Expert
  • 48% calls with parents/community
  • 44% virtual office hours
  • 18% virtual support groups
  • 17% screening staff or others coming to schools

• Managing Chronic Health Conditions
  • 72% meds/equipment return to parents
  • 71% work on student healthcare plan
  • 28% assisted students manage health

• Education
  • 45% educate staff on COVID-19
  • 35% circulate local health dept info
  • 30% classes/videos on COVID-19

https://www.nasn.org/nasn/nasn-resources/practice-topics/covid19
April 2020 School Nurse Survey: Impact of COVID-19
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Are Schools Prepared for COVID-19? (had personal protective equipment on hand at time of survey)

- 20% - face shields
- 24% - no space for isolation in health office
- 25% - disposable gowns
- 27% - limited budget to buy PPE
- 28% - N95 masks
- 33% - goggles
- 78% - surgical masks
- 96% - hand sanitizer
- 98% - hand soap
- 99% - gloves

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Reopening Schools: Pandemic Readiness Plan

• Value health and safety of the school community
• Plan with interprofessional and interagency participants including school nurse and public health authority
• Focus on science-based, evidence-based decision-making
• Use an equity lens
• Consider social, emotional, mental and behavioral health needs of the school community
• Plan collaborations for COVID-19 testing, contact tracing
Challenges and Opportunities