Practical Strategies for Implementing EBP into School Nursing Practice

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School nurses may not have the time or education needed to synthesize research findings into evidence-based practice.

96% of school nurses agreed that EBP is important but only 44% felt comfortable with EBP (Adams, 2009)

Research/EBP ranked top priority among 6,800 nurses surveyed; only 20% participated in any (Maughan & Mangena, 2013)

80% of practicing school nurses graduated before EBP was introduced in nursing curriculum (Mangena & Maughan, 2015)

EBP is a component of SN standards and Framework for the 21st century SN practice™ (NASN, 2016, 2017)

Reported barriers to EBP are: time, resources, training, support, authority to make change (Melnyk & Fine-Overholt, 2013)

Identify simple and effective ways in which school nurses can implement EBP strategies into their practice.

Identify areas of interest - use your school’s data trends to choose where to exert your time and energy

Partner with universities’ nursing faculty to identify best practice and form mentoring relationships

Collaborate with stakeholders - Buy-in from administrators, school boards, staff, and families is needed for success

Join with other interested school nurses to share responsibility and learn more about implementing EBP

Outcomes

Improved student health & learning
- Decrease absenteeism
- Increase seat time

Improved quality of SN care
- Use of best practice
- NASN CLUE Club (Champion Learning Using Evidence)

EBP Resources

Public Sites
Centers for Disease Control, National Guideline Clearinghouse, Nursing Associations, NIH, Google Scholar

Academic Sites
PubMed, CINAHL, Cochrane Reviews, Joanna Briggs Institute

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