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Exploring NP practice and satisfaction in primary care at one southern California Healthcare Institution

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Background: In the United States, as Primary Care physician shortage is predicted to worsen over the next decade, nurse practitioner providers (NPs) play an increasingly important role in providing access to high quality primary care. Moreover, in states where NP supervision is mandated, such as in California, it is critical to establish better collaborative models, as healthcare providers struggle to care for the ageing population. Little is known, however, about NP satisfaction and how it affects organizational processes and retention.

Purpose: The aim is to gain understanding of NP practice environment and NP satisfaction in Primary Care in Southern California.

Methodology/Approach: Data will be collected through surveys that were distributed via email to practicing NPs from 5 primary care clinics at one Sothern California healthcare institution. Several methods were used such as Likert scale and semantic evaluation scale in evaluating and measuring respondents' opinions on important satisfaction features, as well as open-ended questions to identify and assess underlying constructs that specifically define nurse practitioner satisfaction.

Biography

Elena Todorova holds Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from the University of San Diego. She is a Clinical Associate Professor and a co-chair of the Planetree executive committee at National University, USA. She is a nationally board-certified Family Nurse Practitioner. Her research interests include Advanced Practice Nursing in primary care, cardiovascular and thoracic surgery, person-centered care, methods for improving student learning and simulation. She practices in Internal Medicine and has held a position with clinical privileges at Scripps CV and Thoracic surgery. Her clinical practice has afforded her the expertise needed to serve as a mentor and preceptor for graduate nursing students. Dr. Todorova is a member of the Planetree Higher Education Advisory Council. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International honor society of nursing, California Association of Nurse Practitioners and the American Association of Nurse Practitioners.

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