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Connecting with the Counselors: Innovative Approaches to Enhance the Recruitment of Male Students in Secondary Schools

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Connecting with the Counselors: Innovative Approaches to Enhance the Recruitment of Male Students in Secondary Schools

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Meet the Team

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RN

- Associate Dean for CEPD, Eastern Carolina University

Project Problem

PROBLEM - Historically, school counselors have not encouraged male high school student's interest in pursuing nursing.^{1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8}

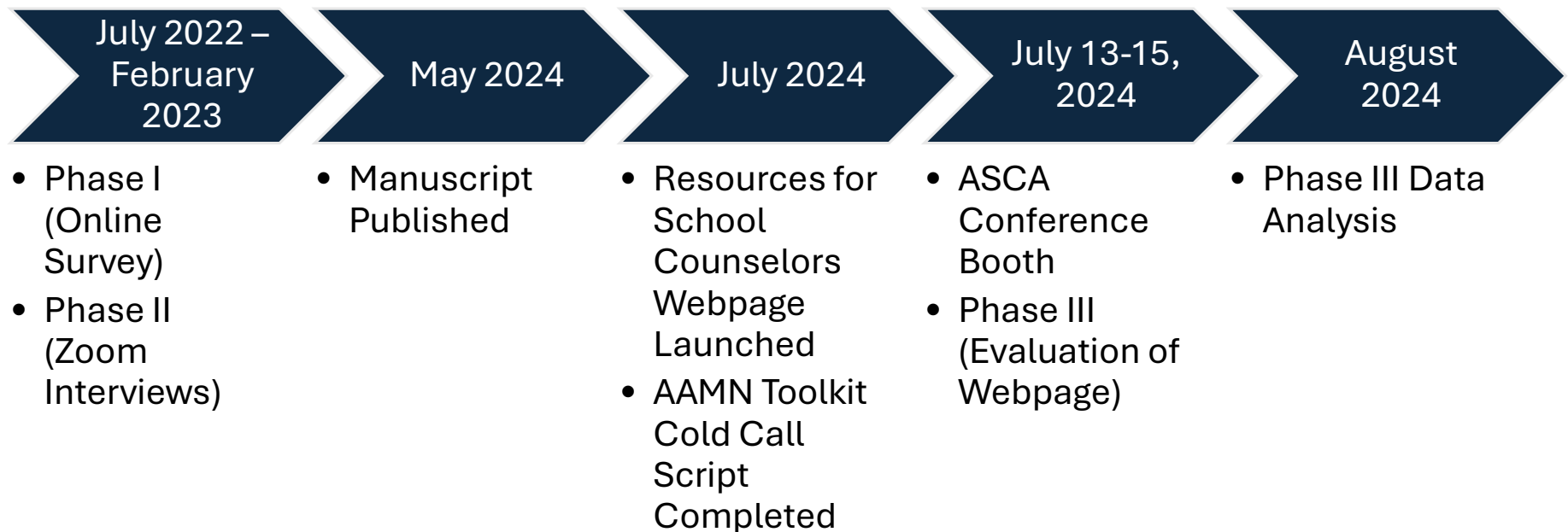
Problem Background

BACKGROUND - There are approximately 118,000 public school counselors in the United States.⁹ School counselors help students explore career options and influence decisions¹⁰ but may be influenced by personal perceptions and biases. Multiple studies reported that male students experienced challenges obtaining information about nursing from school counselors.^{2,5,7} While some studies reported school counselors had realistic perceptions of nursing,^{11,12} other studies found school counselors rarely promoted nursing,^{12,13} often viewed nursing as feminine,^{13,14} and had a low perception of nursing.¹⁵ Several studies found male students had negative experiences with school counselors and were discouraged from entering nursing.^{1,3,4,6,8}

Project Purpose

PURPOSE - Understand the perceptions and practices of school counselors when advising male high school students about a career in nursing.

Project Timeline



The Original Study

Methodology

- A mixed-methods, IRB-approved, two-phase design.
- Phase 1 – Cross-sectional, descriptive, correlational survey design with two open-ended questions.
Instruments: demographic section, Nursing Attitudes and Perceptions – School Counselor (NAP-SC), and two open-ended questions exploring current strategies used and additional resources needed.
- Phase 2 – Descriptive, semi-structured interviews of individuals who completed Phase 1 and signed up for interviews.

Summary of Findings

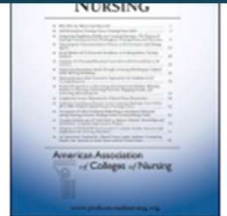
- Overall, school counselors have a positive perception of male nurses and support males interested in pursuing a career in nursing, which differs from previous research.^{1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8}
- The male participants had significantly lower scores than female participants.¹⁶
- Participants from public schools were more likely to encourage males to pursue nursing.¹⁶
- School counselors with less experience had less confidence in their knowledge and availability of resources to advise male students.¹⁶
- ASCA members found it more desirable to recommend nursing to male students than non-ASCA members.¹⁶



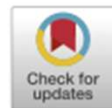
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School counselor perceptions and practices of advising male high school students regarding a career in nursing



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ABSTRACT

Background: The literature describes how male high school students with an interest in a career in nursing have struggled to obtain guidance, support, and accurate information.

Purpose: The purpose of this mixed-methods study was to understand the perceptions and practices of school counselors when advising male high school students about a nursing career.

Method: Sixty-one school counselors completed an online survey, and nine participated in online interviews between June 2022 and February 2023.

Phone Script Launch

Script to assist AAMN members when calling local elementary, middle, and high schools.

Phone Script

Greeting: good morning, good afternoon, good evening.		Date of contact: <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> MM DD YY	
This is <input type="text"/>			
<small>Name of Representative/Executive</small>			
<i>"I am calling to speak to the school counselor about nursing careers. Would they be available to speak?"</i>	Name of Counselor		
<i>"Hello, _____, My name is _____. I am a local RN, Student Nurse and I would like to speak to your students about nursing careers".</i>	School		
<i>"Does the school have a healthcare course/club?"</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Specify <input type="text"/>
<i>"Would you be interested in a nurse/student nurse coming to visit the course/club?"</i>	Client Requirement		Who from organization will go to the location?
<i>"Thank you! I will get back to you with more information within the next 2 hours/days/weeks."</i>	(list the follow-up that is needed)		
<i>"When would be a good time to reach you?"</i>	Time		
<i>"What number should I call?" (if different)</i>	Phone Number		
**IF talking to instructor/ club leader	Home <input type="checkbox"/>	Mobile <input type="checkbox"/>	Work <input type="checkbox"/>
<i>If you leave a voicemail, please introduce yourself and AAMN chapter/school. Provide your contact information, and/or link to the AAMN resource site.</i>	** Email them as well if you have the address.		
Location of meeting: Have the counselor provide the proper address and entrance procedure to the school. (see below)	Address	City	
	State	Zip Code	
<i>Is there any additional information that the nurse/student needs to know about the course? (Level of education, materials covered, interests, time allowed.)</i>	Additional Information:		
<i>"Is there anything the instructor/course/club want to cover?"</i>	If YES: (or below in notes)		
Notes:			

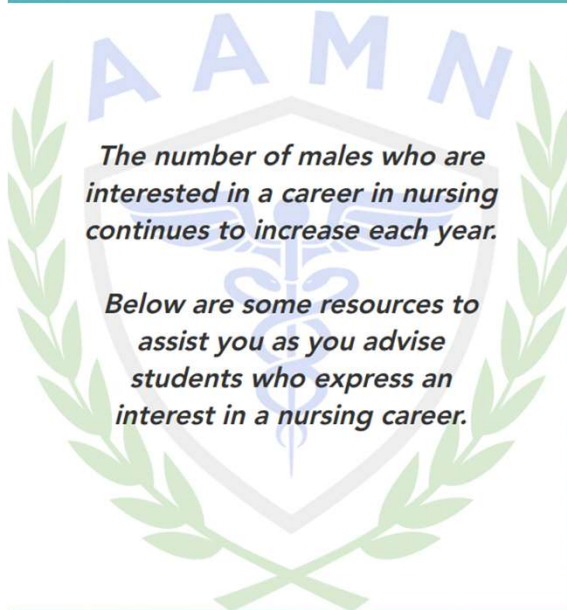
<https://www.aamn.org/futurn-teaching-materials>

Webpage Launch

Resources for School Counselors Webpage

<https://www.aamn.org/resources-for-school-counselors>

RESOURCES FOR SCHOOL COUNSELORS



[Request Contact From A Local Male Nurse](#)

Finding a Career That Fits

[Career Assessments for High School Students](#)

About Nursing

[Nursing Workforce Fact Sheet](#)

[Education](#)

[Pay Scale for Nurses](#)

[Nursing Specialties](#)

[How to Become a CNA](#)

[Nursing Career FAQs \(Mini Video Clips\)](#)

Preparing for Nursing School

[10 Ways High School Students Can Prepare for a Nursing Career](#)

[VIDEO: How to Prepare for Nursing School as a High School Student \(6:37\)](#)

[VIDEO: Tips for High School Students who want to be Nurses \(7:39\)](#)

About Men in Nursing

[Male Nurse Statistics: A Look at the Numbers](#)

[AAMN FutuRN Teaching Materials](#)

[Male Nurses: Why Men Should Consider a Career in Nursing](#)

[VIDEO: #WeGotThis: Men in Nursing \(1:42\)](#)

[VIDEO: Men in Nursing \(9:45\)](#)

[VIDEO: Black Men in Nursing: Brothers in Mentorship \(2:13\)](#)

[VIDEO: Why Not Men in Nursing \(3:14\)](#)

[VIDEO: It's a Man's World: Challenging Nursing Stereotypes \(17:39\)](#)

[Report a bad link here](#)

[Offer feedback on this page](#)

The ASCA Conference Exhibitor Booth



School Counselor Evaluation of AAMN Webpage

Please rate the overall visual appeal of the AAMN Resources for School Counselors web page.

Answered: 35 Skipped: 33



	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
★	2.86% 1	0.00% 0	5.71% 2	31.43% 11	60.00% 21	35	4.46

Please rate the usability of the AAMN Resources for School Counselors web page.

Answered: 35 Skipped: 33



	1	2	3	4	5	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
★	2.86% 1	0.00% 0	8.57% 3	28.57% 10	60.00% 21	35	4.43

Webpage Statistics

As of October 7, 2024

- 188 total view
- 55 views of the contact form
- 0 submitted requests

Summary of Findings

- School counselors have a positive view of men in nursing, but often lack resources to provide accurate information to students interested in nursing.
- The AAMN Resources for School Counselors webpage is an effective first step in providing resources to school counselors.

How you can help!

- Contact your local elementary, middle, and high school counselors using the phone script and offer assistance.
- Sign up to be a part of the AAMN Nurse Network Database.
- Hand out the business card with the QR code to school educators, counselors, and colleagues.



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