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Rural Nurses' Engagement in Communities

Perceptions of sense of community and community engagement among rural nurses: Results of a national survey

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Background: Variations in rural nurses' sense of community and engagement in rural communities are poorly understood, although there is evidence that these are linked to community cohesion and perceived community resilience.

Objective: The aim of our research was to develop descriptive profiles of rural nurses who exhibit a sense of community and community engagement at low, average, and high levels, based on occupational, personal, community, and regional characteristics. These results were linked to levels of cohesion and resilience.

Design: A survey questionnaire, including established scales, demographic information, and information about rural nursing practice was administered to rural nurses.

Settings: Rural communities in all provinces and territories in Canada outside the commuting zone of urban areas with 10,000 or more inhabitants.

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