

**The DOLLAR\$ and “SENSE” of
Data Collection:
Reporting School Health Services**

Florida Association of School Nurses
“School Nurses Going the Extra Mile”
February 5-6, 2010
Kathy J. Browning, RN, BSN, NCSN

Abstract

- A systematic method of data collection, reporting, analysis and evaluation empowers school nurses, local school health coordinators, and state school health leaders toward advocacy for health services that impact the lives of Florida’s children.

Objectives

- 1) Recognize that evidence-based practice leads to outcome-based goals.
- 2) Understand the rationale for standardized data collection and reporting methodologies.
- 3) Discuss the process of policy change as a result of accurate data collection, and evaluation of outcomes.
- 4) Correlate provision of school health services by individual professional school nurses with collaborative opportunities for advocacy.

The Nursing Process

- Assessment
- Diagnosis
- Outcomes identification
- Implementation
- Planning
- Evaluation
- ...assessment of school health services...

• Source: *Scope and Standards of Practice (2005)*

**School Nursing:
A Specialized Practice**

National:
Standards for the Professional School Nurse (NASN)
National Certification (recommended)

State:
Professional Licensure
Florida Statutes and Rules
Technical Assistance Guidelines
Agency regulation/consultation (DOH, DOE)

Local:
Policies and procedures (DOH, DOE)

DATA

IT’S ALL ABOUT THE DATA!!!!!!

DATA IS NOT GOOD OR BAD--

IT IS JUST THE DATA.

THERE IS COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY
TO
RESPOND VS. REACT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The Data Cycle

- Mandates / Problem Identified
- Interventions Implemented
 - Service rendered
 - Service recorded
 - Service reported
- Outcomes evaluated
 - Service repeated

Outcomes

- “Outcomes are the actual results of interventions implemented.” (Duffy & Korniewicz, 1999)
- Outcome measurements demonstrate accountability and effectiveness to those served by school nurses and those who employ them. (Selekman & Guilday, 2003)

Measurement criteria

- Collection of data to monitor the quality and effectiveness of nursing care
- Formulation of recommendations to improve school nursing practice or client outcomes
- Evaluation and research to test for quality and effectiveness

Limitations

- Limited research on impact of school nursing on students or the state of health in the school or community
- Inconsistency with quality indicators
- Evaluation is by “task” and “frequency of performance of task”
- Without data to support effectiveness of nursing care provided in school health, school nurses will be unable to demonstrate their impact on child health.

Use of Data

- Reported in surveys from organizations, i.e. school nurse (RN) : student ratio
- Legislative bill analysis, legislative budget requests and bill proposals
- Program justification
- Evaluation and allocation of staff
 - (local and state)
- Resource allocation
- Program planning and advocacy
- Quality Assurance / Quality Improvement

Work Smarter, Not Harder

- Collecting data successfully
- Using technology
- Reflecting on current practices and setting priorities according to evidence-based literature
- Delegating appropriate health services and responsibilities
- Learning from the experiences of others
- Making decisions based on data

This the the tricky part...

- Requirement: All providers must report school health services.
- Challenge: The technology infrastructure is limited.
 - Data collection systems vary extensively
 - Agencies outside the FL DOH cannot access HMS directly for reporting

Barriers to Valid Data Acquisition

- Accountability and collaboration at the local level may be limited to contract language
- Philosophical differences between school health services providers
- Training for direct providers regarding mandated services and reporting is not standardized across the state
- Providers “overwhelmed” with the responsibility of being the “health expert” in the education environment

Potential Errors in the Use of Data

- Drawing conclusions without substantial data, i.e.
- Comparison of unequal data, i.e. reported “total health services” does not equal “nursing or school nurse services”
- Presumptive use of “if...then” statements

Critical Evaluation Tools

- QA / QI Checklists
 - School Health County Self-Assessment Checklist
 - School Health Room Review
 - School Health Record Review
- Annual Summary of School Health Services
- School Health Services Plan (all partners)
- Various reports
 - HMS: Basic Schools, Comprehensive Schools, Full Service Schools, All Schools

State Requirements: Data Reporting

- Annual School Health Services Report (due September 30)
- EARS
- Health Management System (HMS) for quarterly performance reports
- Accountable for both funded and unfunded mandated health services

FL DOH School Health Services Program Office

- Consultation for school health leaders regarding the provision of school health services
- Technical assistance guidelines for the implementation of FL school health services statutes and rules
- Allocation of FL DOH school health funding

Florida School Health Services Program Office

- Review, analysis and evaluation of school health data reported by all counties
- Annual summary reports utilizing statewide data
- Respond to inquiries from legislators, constituents, and department management staff, and school health leaders

Florida Department of Education

- Diane Mennitt, School Nurse Consultant, with Student Services Team model
- Website: portal for statistical and programmatic information
- Technical assistance guidelines for the implementation of FL DOE / federal statutes and rules

Mandated Services

s. 381.0056

- Health Screening: Vision, Hearing, Scoliosis, Growth and Development with BMI
- Nursing Assessment/Consultation (RN)
- Licensed Practical Nurse Services (LPN)
- Paraprofessional (Health Aide/Health Tech) Services
- Staff / Parent Consultation
- Student Health Care Plan Development (RN)

Mandated Services (con't.)

- Preventive Dental Services
- Health Education Classes
- Complex Medical Procedure
- Staffing / Screening for ESE students
- Immunization Follow Up
- New Enrollee / Health Record Review
- Daily Health / Clinic Services
- Dental Screening

Coding School Health Services

- *Personal Health Coding Manual for School Health (2009)*
- Employee Activity Record (EAR)
 - aggregate data
- Health Management System (HMS)
- Health Management Component (HMC)

Coding Details

- County Health Department staff must code time and services.
- All other providers code services only.
- Do not "DOUBLE CODE"!!

Advocating with Data

- Legislative Proposals
- Bill Analysis (impact to the program, FL DOH or FL DOE)
- Budget Proposals
- Response to inquiries from agency leadership, legislators, legislative staff, and constituents

Funding Sources

- Florida Department of Health, School Health Program (FL DOH, SHSPO)
- Local County Health Department (CHD)
- Local Educational Agency (LEA)
- Contract Providers
- Other (Public/Private Partners)

Source: Florida School Health Administrative Guidelines (2007)

Accessing Funding

- State Government
- Federal Education and Health Dollars (Categorical Programs)
- Other Federal & State Programs
- Public / Private Grants
- Local Resources
- Cost Recovery (Insurance and/or Medicaid billing; Medicaid Administrative Claiming)
- *Source: Selekman (2006)*

Data of Interest for Local Staffing Planning

- Chronic Disease Management
- Mandated School Health Services
- Responsibilities as the school campus “health expert”, i.e. wellness activities, staff wellness
- Required periodic public health initiatives, i.e. H1N1 vaccine project

Chronic Health Conditions Data

- Asthma (American Lung Association)
- Diabetes (American Diabetes Association)
- Food Allergies, Anaphylactic-type (Food-Allergy Network)
- Seizures (Epilepsy Foundation)
- Attention Deficit Disorder

- NASN Issue Brief: School Nursing Services Role in Health Care —School Nursing Management of Students with Chronic Health Conditions

Legislative Process

- Step 1
 - Provision of health services
 - Data Collection
 - Reporting
 - Evaluation

Legislative Process

- Step 2
 - Prioritize need for change
 - Develop legislative bill or legislative budget proposal
 - Justify request with established data; respond to inquiries

Legislative Process

- Step 3
 - Establish rule, if required
 - Provide technical assistance for implementation

Legislative Process

- Step 4
 - Evaluate reported data
 - Continuously review professional standards and evidence-based literature

Success Stories

Changes implemented to improve the provision and documentation of school health services

- Miami-Dade
- Seminole
- Madison
- Pasco

Acknowledgements

- School Health Services Program Office/Staff, Florida Department of Health
- State School Nurse Consultant, Florida Department of Education
- School Health Leaders in Florida
- School Nurses in Florida
- Florida Association of School Nurses

Bibliography

- *Florida School Health Administrative Guidelines (2007)*
- Florida School Health Services Program Website
 - http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Family/school/attachments/sh_index.htm
- The National Association of School Nurses (NASN) Website
 - www.nasn.org
- The Official Portal of the State of Florida
 - www.myflorida.com
- The Centers for Disease Control
 - www.cdc.gov
- Sekelman, J, (2006). *School nursing: a comprehensive text*. F.A. Davis Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- American Nurses Association, (2005). *School nursing: scope & standards of practice*. Silver Spring, Maryland.