

Web Site Support for School Nurses

A University-Community Partnership • www.schoolnurseandhealth.com

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Introduction

"The majority of school nurses work alone, care for large numbers of students, and practice as the sole professionals responsible for decisions regarding health problems, issues, and concerns at their work site" (Simmons, 2002).

School nurses benefit from the knowledge and expertise of their colleagues. A well-designed, interactive website can be used to connect school nurses

Purpose

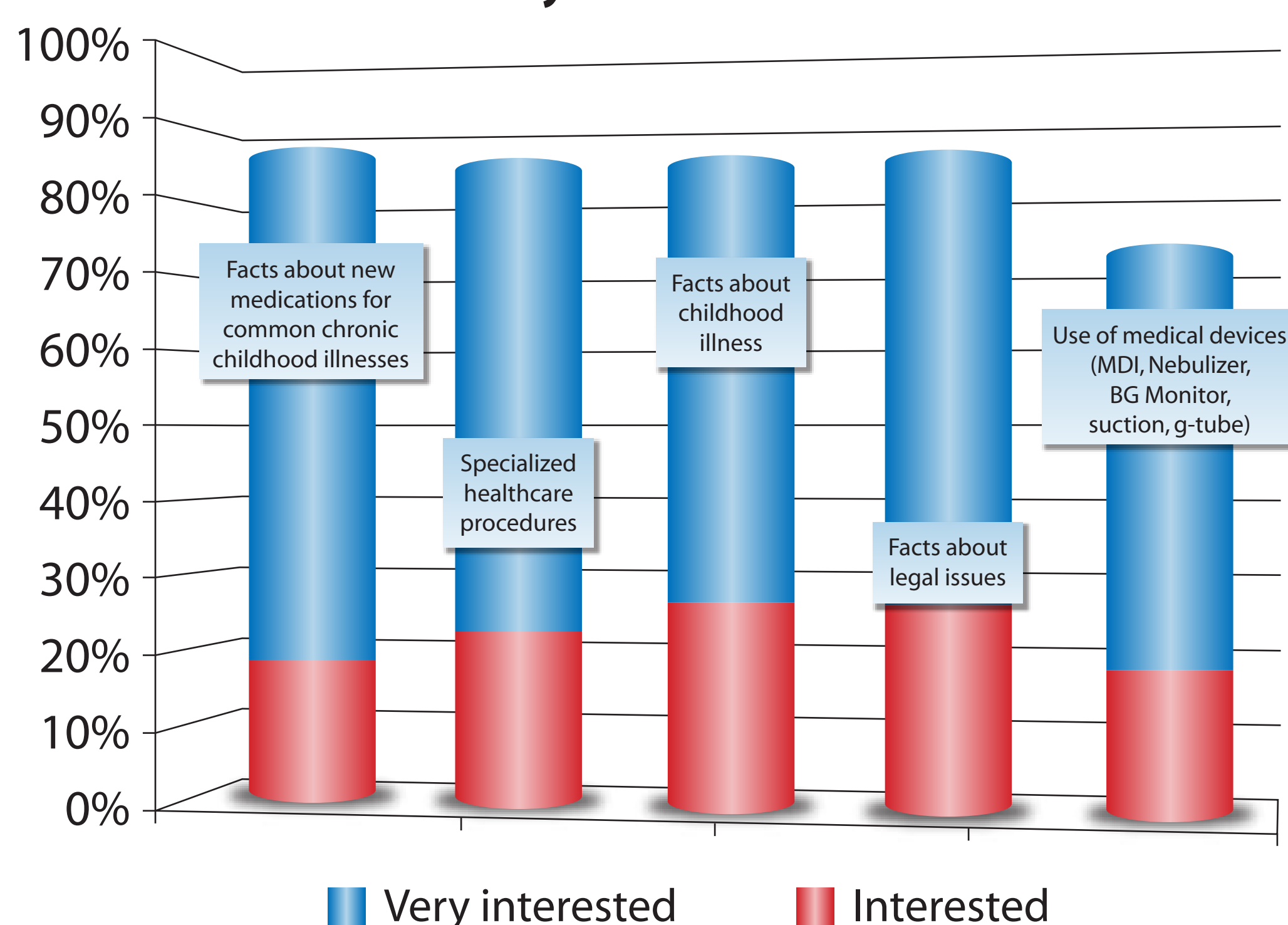
To create an innovative, interactive website which supports the Independent practice of school nurses and connects them to valuable resources.

Pre-project Focus Group Recommendations

Website should:

- Include a search engine
- Be easy to navigate
- Have a warm friendly colorful appearance
- Have an expressive, well-branded logo
- Address SN interest areas

Website Survey: School Nurse Areas of Interest



School Nurse Website Survey
 (Top rated items based on the survey)

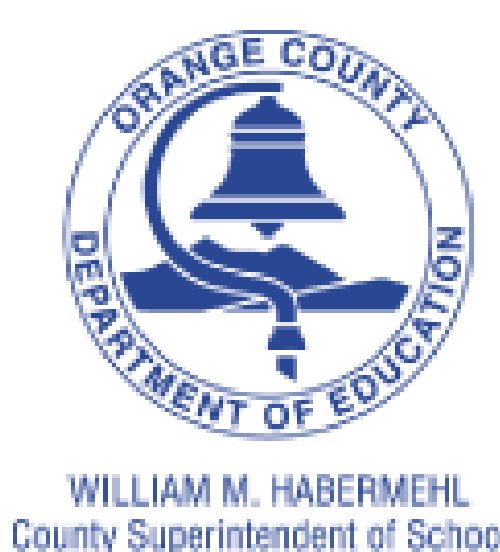
Citations

Simmons, D.R. (2002) Autonomy in Practice: A Qualitative Study of School Nurses' Perceptions. Journal of School Nursing, Vol. 18, No. 2, pp 87-94.



Collaborative Partners and their Contributions

<p>California State University, Fullerton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design, development, marketing, maintenance • Content contributor 	<p>Orange County School Nurse Organization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Calendar • OCSNO Events • Breaking News • Special Physical Health Care Procedures
<p>American Academy of Pediatrics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask the Expert • Content contributor 	<p>Orange County Department of Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding support • eNewsletter • County Health and Wellness Link
<p>Children and Families Commission of Orange County</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding support 	



Outcomes:

Supported, Connected School Nurses

Ready Access to Colleagues and Resources

- Community Organizations and Resources (information and links)
- eNewsletters
- Referral Sources for Children and Families

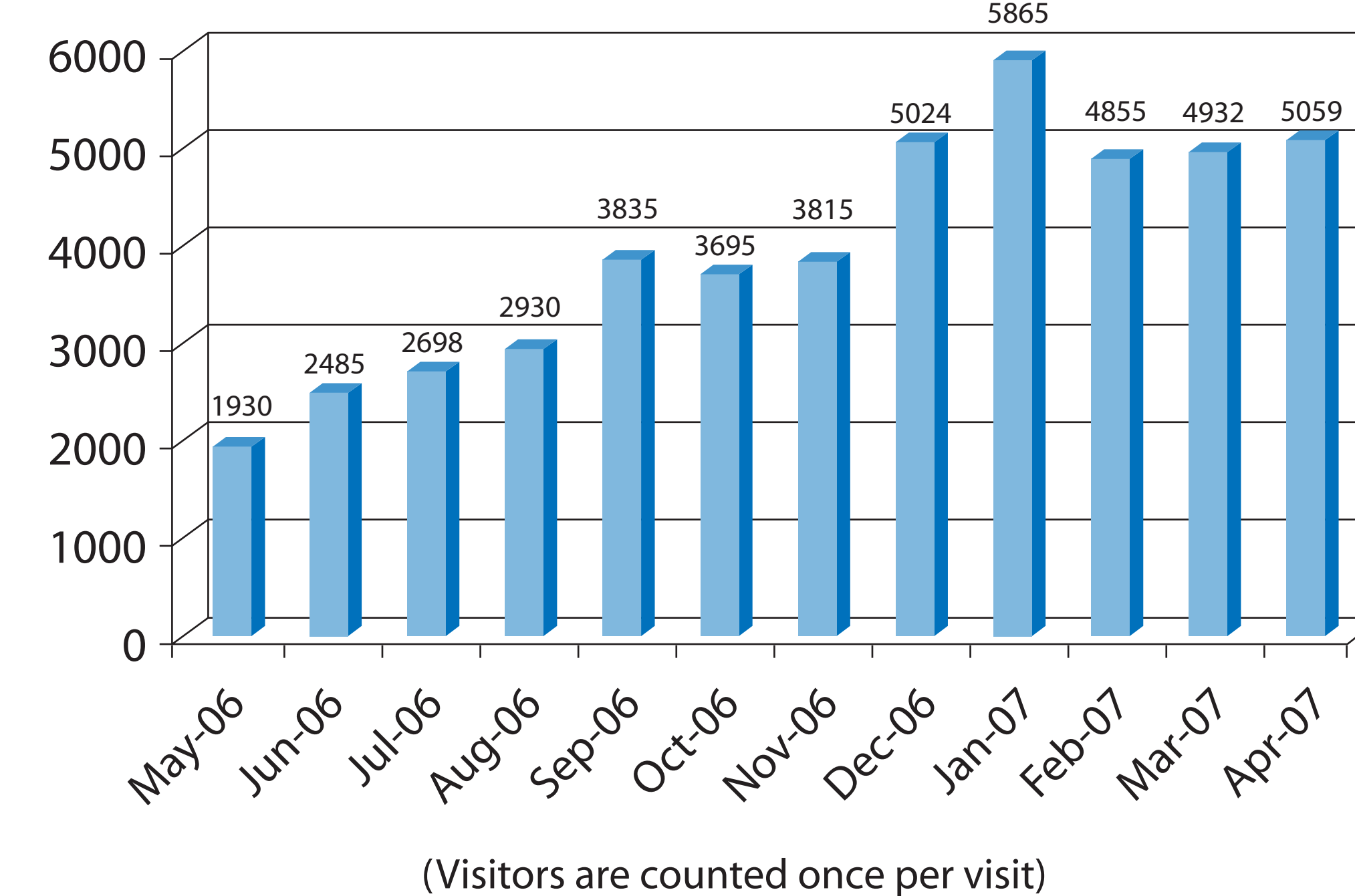
Downloadable, Innovative Educational Products by CSUF SN/MSN students

- Videos
- Narrated PowerPoint presentations
- Pamphlets

Up-to-date information about topics important to school nurses

- Common Childhood and Adolescent Conditions
- Child Risk Behavior and Associated Conditions
- School Nursing Research
- Professional Support (grant-writing, manuscript writing, policy development)
- Legislative Updates

Website Visitors



Implications For School Nurses

The very nature of school nursing often dictates that nurses work in an isolated environment. The utilization of this web-based system helps to breach the distance between school nurses and their colleagues, local physicians, and community resources. Providing access to this type of professional support results in a school nurse practice that becomes more effective, more relevant, and more able to provide a rich variety of resources, referrals, and appropriate physical and mental health services to the student population.