



## SURVEY OF PHYSICIANS ABOUT NURSING

### Instructions for completing the survey:

- Please read each of the questions carefully. Using a blue or black pen, place an "X" in the box next to the appropriate response as indicated:
- In general, you should select only one response for each question. If more than one response is allowed, the questions will specifically indicate that option.
- Please answer every question except those that you are instructed to skip. Please follow the "skip instructions" carefully.

Please direct any questions or concerns that you may have about this survey to Sandra Applebaum, at [sapplebaum@harrisinteractive.com](mailto:sapplebaum@harrisinteractive.com) or 800-575-4749, ext. 6746.

### Section A – Nursing Overview

**A1.** Overall, would you say that the number of registered nurses available to work in patient care **in the US** is...?

- Much greater than the demand (**SKIP TO A5**)
- Somewhat greater than the demand (**SKIP TO A5**)
- About equal to the demand (**SKIP TO A5**)
- Somewhat less than the demand
- Much less than the demand

**A2.** Overall, **in the community in which you practice**, would you say that the supply of registered nurses who are working in patient care is...?

- Much greater than the demand (**SKIP TO A5**)
- Somewhat greater than the demand (**SKIP TO A5**)
- About equal to the demand (**SKIP TO A5**)
- Somewhat less than the demand
- Much less than the demand

**A3.** If you believe that supply is **LESS THAN DEMAND** in the US or your community, what do you think are the main reasons there is a nursing shortage? *Please choose up to two answers.*

- Lack of qualified students
- Emotional and physical challenge of work
- More career options for women
- Salary and benefits
- Difficult work schedules
- Negative perceptions of healthcare work environments
- Other (please specify below)
- \_\_\_\_\_

**A4.** If you believe that supply is **LESS THAN DEMAND** in the US or your community, do you think the shortage has been a problem for...?

	Major Problem	Minor Problem	Not a Problem
The amount of time nurses have to complete physician orders for patients	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The amount of time nurses have to devote to each of their patients	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The early detection of patient complications by nurses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The amount of time nurses have to collaborate with other team members	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The quality of work life of nurses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The overall quality of patient care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**A5.** Do you mostly agree or mostly disagree with the following statements about nursing?

Nursing is...	Agree	Disagree
a good career for men	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a good career for students who rank in top 20% of high school class	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a good career for people who want a secure job	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a good career for people who are good at science	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a good career for people who want respect in their jobs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**A6.** Given what you know about the state of healthcare, how likely would you be to advise a qualified high school or college student to pursue a career in medicine or in nursing?

Career in medicine	Career in Nursing
<input type="checkbox"/> Definitely would	<input type="checkbox"/> Definitely would
<input type="checkbox"/> Probably would	<input type="checkbox"/> Probably would
<input type="checkbox"/> Probably would not	<input type="checkbox"/> Probably would not
<input type="checkbox"/> Definitely would not	<input type="checkbox"/> Definitely would not

**Section B – Hospital Working Environment**

**B1.** In an average month, approximately how many patients do you admit to the hospital?

/ / (write in number)

**IF YOU DO NOT ADMIT PATIENTS TO THE HOSPITAL, PLEASE SKIP TO SECTION C, PAGE 3.**

**IF YOU ADMIT PATIENTS TO MORE THAN ONE HOSPITAL, PLEASE ANSWER THE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE HOSPITAL WHERE YOU ADMIT MOST PATIENTS.**

**B2.** In a typical week, how frequently do you interact with nurses at the hospital?

- Never
- Only occasionally during each week
- At least once a day
- Multiple times each day

**B3.** Are you directly responsible for hiring nurses?

- Yes
- No

**B4.** In the last year, in the hospital where you admit most of your patients, has there been a shortage of registered nurses?

- Yes, a very serious shortage
- Yes, a somewhat serious shortage
- Not a shortage (SKIP TO B5)

**B4b.** Thinking about the criteria for quality of care established by the Institute of Medicine, would you say the shortage of nurses has had an adverse impact on any of the following aspects of patient care?

	Frequently	Often	Some times	Never
Safety				
Timeliness				
Effectiveness				
Efficiency, cost-effectiveness				
Equity				
Patient-centeredness				

**B5.** In the past year, have you observed any of the following? If you have observed it, indicate whether it has had a negative or positive impact on the quality of patient care. *Please select one choice in each row.*

	Have Not Observed	Have Observed and Has...	
		Had Negative Impact	Had Positive Impact
Increased efforts to recognize and reward nurses for excellence			
Increases in overtime or double shifts for nurses			
Increases in use of agency nurses or traveling nurses			
Increases in internal floats or reassignment of nurses between departments			
Increases in efforts to encourage better teamwork between nurses and physicians			
A greater number of patients per nurse			
Increases in new graduates and less experienced nurses			
Increased efforts to retain experienced nurses			
The employment of nurses educated in other countries			
Replacement of registered nurses with unlicensed personnel			

**B6.** In the past year, have you observed any of the following as a result of nursing shortages?

	Yes	No
Increased patient wait time for surgery or tests		
Nurses' delayed response to pages or calls		
Reduced number of available beds		
Delayed discharges		
Discontinued / closed patient care programs		
Increased work load for physicians		
Increased patients' complaints about nursing care		
Increased staff communication problems		

**B7.** In general, do you think the pay nurses receive in the hospital in which you work is...?

- Much too high
- Somewhat high
- About right
- Somewhat low
- Much too low
- Don't know

**B8.** In the past year, to the best of your knowledge, has the hospital made any deliberate efforts to improve nursing recruitment? *Please check any activities you have seen.*

- Increased advertising
- Paid for continuing education
- Increased salaries
- Improved non-salary benefits
- Career fairs or community outreach
- Increased nurse recognition events

**B9.** How would you rate the quality of work relationships in the hospital where you admit most of your patients

	Excel-lent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
Among nurses					
Between nurses and physicians					
Between nurses and management					
Between nurses and support staff					

**Section C – Office Working Environment**

**IF YOU ARE A HOSPITALIST (HOSPITAL BASED ONLY) AND/OR NEVER SEE PATIENTS IN AN OFFICE OR OUTPATIENT SETTING, PLEASE SKIP TO SECTION D.**

**C1.** Approximately how many patients do you personally see in your office each week?

*..... / ..... / ..... patients (write in number)*

**C2.** Is your practice...?

- A solo practice
- A single specialty group practice
- A multi-specialty group practice

**C3.** Is your practice...?

- Located within, or on the campus of an academic medical center
- Affiliated with an academic medical center, but located off-campus
- Not affiliated with an academic center

**C4.** Does your practice employ nurses? *Check all that apply and insert number if applicable.*

- Registered Nurses
- LPNs
- Primary Care Advanced practice
- Specialized Advanced practice

**NOTE: ADVANCED PRACTICE INCLUDES NURSE PRACTITIONER, CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST.**

**C5.** Are you personally responsible for hiring decisions about nurses?

- Yes
- No

**C6.** In the last year, has there been a shortage of nurses in your practice?

- Yes, a very serious shortage
- Yes, a somewhat serious shortage
- Not a shortage

**C7.** Does a shortage of nurses impact the care of your patients who need long term care services such as home care, hospice, rehabilitation or skilled nursing?

- Yes, it's a serious problem
- Yes, but it's not a serious problem
- No
- Doesn't apply to my patients

**Section D -**

**D1.** Regardless of whether a shortage of nurses has impacted your practice, the problem has been highlighted in the nation in recent years. Do you think the current nursing shortage will lead to...?

	Yes	No
Higher pay for nurses		
Need to have other staff perform some nursing patient care activities		
Nurses leaving for non-nursing jobs		
More respect for nurses		
Lower quality care for patients		
Improvements in workplace environment		
Increased stress on physicians		

**D3.** Thinking about the following, if there is a nursing shortage in the US, who should be responsible for solving the problem?

	Agree Strongly	Agree Some-what	Neu-tral	Disagree Some-what	Disagree Strongly
Hospitals					
Nursing organizations					
Medical profession					
Federal government					
Private industry					

**D4.** In the past year have you seen or been told about any of the following?

	Yes	No
Brochures and videos encouraging people to "Be a Nurse"		
National television commercials about nurses with the slogan "They Dare to Care"		
A website <a href="http://www.discovernursing.com">www.discovernursing.com</a>		
"The Promise of Nursing" fundraising events		

**IF YOU ANSWERED "YES" TO ANY ITEM IN D4, PLEASE ANSWER D5. OTHERWISE SKIP TO D6.**

**D5.** Can you name the sponsor of these activities?

**D6.** In the past year, do you recall seeing or hearing commercials on television or radio about nursing careers sponsored by any of the following organizations?

	Yes	No
A hospital in your community or region	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A federal or state government agency	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A pharmaceutical or medical products company	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A college or nursing school	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**D7.** How would you rank the importance of the RN shortage relative to other issues that impact you as a physician? Specifically, is the RN shortage more important, less important, or of about the same degree of importance compared with...?

	RN issue More	RN issue Less	RN issue Same
Adequacy of Medicare payments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adequacy of Medicaid payments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Medical malpractice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Uninsured patients	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Medicare drug benefit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Threat of terrorism, including bioterrorism	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health plan regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Section E- Factuals**

**E1.** Are you...?

- Male
- Female

**E2.** Which of the following income categories best describes your total professional income in the year 2002 before taxes?

- Less than \$50,000
- \$51,000 to \$100,000
- \$101,000 to \$150,000
- \$151,000 to \$200,000
- \$201,000 to \$250,000
- More than \$250,000
- Decline to answer

**E3.** Are you...?

- Self-employed
- Employed by a physician practice
- Employed by a hospital
- Other (please specify below)

**E4.** Would you describe the area in which you work as a physician as...?

- Urban
- Suburban
- Rural

**E5.** Do you consider yourself...?

- White
- Black or African American
- Asian or Pacific Islander
- Native American or Alaskan native
- Of mixed racial background
- Some other race
- Decline to answer

**E6.** Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin?

- Yes
- No

**E7.** Are any family members employed as nurses?

- Spouse or partner
- Child
- Parent
- Sibling
- Other relative
- No family members are employed as nurses

**E8.** Do you have children? *Please check all that apply.*

- 10 and under
- 11-17
- 18+
- NO (PLEASE SKIP TO XX)**

**E8b.** Given what you know about health care, how likely would you be to advise **your** child to pursue a career in medicine or in nursing?

Career in medicine	Career in Nursing
<input type="checkbox"/> Definitely would	<input type="checkbox"/> Definitely would
<input type="checkbox"/> Probably would	<input type="checkbox"/> Probably would
<input type="checkbox"/> Probably would not	<input type="checkbox"/> Probably would not
<input type="checkbox"/> Definitely would not	<input type="checkbox"/> Definitely would not