

Evaluation of the Impact of American Association of Nurse Practitioners’ Health Policy Conference Participation on Self-assessment of Political Astuteness

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Purpose

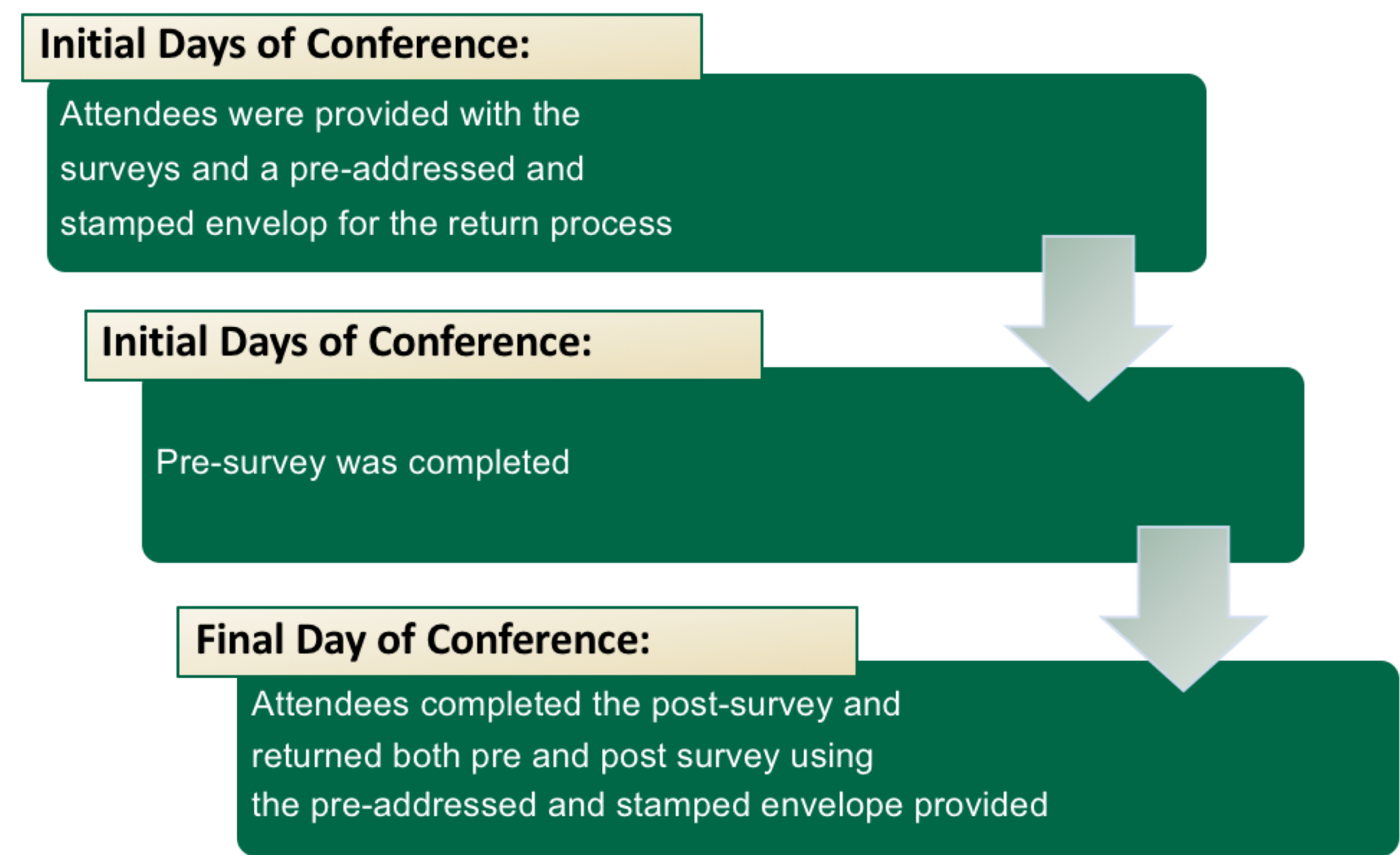
- To measure the impact of participation in a health policy conference and face-to-face meetings with Federal House and or Senate Representatives on perceived political astuteness among attendees of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners' 2018 Health Policy Conference.

Background

- Evidence-based strategies, for increasing *Political Astuteness* and engagement among nurses are needed.
- Political Astuteness* is a comprehensive term entailing an awareness, understanding, knowledge, and involvement in legislative and political processes and health care policy (Primomo & Björling, 2013).
- Approximately 34% of nurses are currently engaged in public policy (Oden et al., 2000).
- Less than 25% of nurse practitioners report being engaged in political activities (O'Rourke et al., 2017).
- Nurse practitioners have reported low internal and external political efficacy (O'Rourke et al., 2017; Sharoni, 2012).
- Participation in state nursing legislative days shows potential as a strategy for increasing *Political Astuteness* (Primomo & Björling, 2013).

Methods

- Pre-post descriptive program evaluation design
- Modified Political Astuteness Inventory* survey tool



McNemar’s Chi-squared Test N = 50

Question Description	n	Positive Change	No Change	Negative Change	McNemar's Chi-squared	p-Value
I know which House and Senate committees deal with health related issues	50	20	29	1	17.19	.000
I know which senators or representatives support the nursing profession	50	17	33	0	17.00	.000
I am personally acquainted with a representative or a member of their staff	50	17	33	0	17.00	.000
I know the committees my representatives hold membership with	50	14	36	0	14.00	.000
I am acquainted with the voting record of one of my representatives on health issues	49	11	38	0	11.00	.001
I know how to politically support my professional organization	50	10	40	0	10.00	.002
I know how to contact my professional organization's lobbyist	50	12	37	1	9.31	.002
I am aware of the stance taken by at least one of my representatives on health issues	49	9	40	0	9.00	.003
I attended the last convention held by my professional nursing organization	50	9	41	0	9.00	.003
I know the process by which a bill is introduced to legislature	50	10	39	1	7.36	.007
I know whom to contact for information about health policy issues	50	14	35	1	11.27	.008
I know the name of the state senator from my district	49	7	42	0	7.00	.008
I am aware of at least two issues discussed and the stances taken at the convention	50	6	44	0	6.00	.014
I actively supported a representative during the last election	49	6	43	0	6.00	.014
I know whether my professional organization employs lobbyists	50	6	44	0	6.00	.014
I know the name of the state representative from my district	49	7	41	1	4.50	.034
I know the location of my political party's headquarters	50	7	42	1	4.50	.034
I know of at least two issues related to my profession that are currently under discussion	50	5	45	0	5.00	.053
I know the process to become a member of the state board that regulates my profession	50	8	40	2	3.60	.058
I know the name the of my Congressional Representative in Washington, DC	49	3	46	0	3.00	.083
I serve as a resource person for one of my representatives or their staff	50	3	47	0	3.00	.083
I attend public hearings related to health issues	50	3	47	0	3.00	.083
I have provided testimony at public hearings on health issues	50	3	47	0	3.00	.083
I stay abreast of current health issues	50	2	48	0	2.00	.157
I know the names of my senators in Washington, DC	50	2	48	0	2.00	.157
I belong to a professional or student organization	50	0	49	1	1.00	.317
I am aware of the composition of the state board for my profession	49	5	41	3	0.50	.480
I read literature published by my professional organization	50	2	47	1	0.33	.564
I know of at least two issues related to my profession that are currently under discussion	50	2	47	1	0.33	.564
I find myself more interested in public issues	50	2	47	1	0.33	.564
I have written my representative regarding a health issue within the last year	49	3	43	3	0.00	1.000
I am registered to vote	50	0	50	0	-	-
I know where my voting precinct is located	50	0	50	0	-	-
I have written letter to the press on health related issues	50	0	50	0	-	-

Discussion

- McNemar’s test showed a positive and statistically significant difference pre- and post- conference participation for 17 of 34 questions included in the final analysis.
- The results of this survey-based program evaluation are consistent with previous studies and suggest that participation in a health policy conference, in combination with face-to-face meetings with Federal House and or Senate Representatives, may increase perceptions of *Political Astuteness* among nurses.

Demographics

Gender n = 50	Percentage	Ethnicity n = 45	Percentage
Male	2	Hispanic or Latino	4.44
Female	98	Non-Hispanic	95.56

Years in Nursing Profession n = 49	Percentage	Highest Nursing Degree n = 50	Percentage
0-10	12.24	BSN	8
11-20	20.4	MS	44
21-30	30.61	Post Masters	4
31-40	18.37	DNP	38
40+	18.36	PhD	6

Age n = 47	Percentage	Race n = 50	Percentage
25-34	10.63	AI or AN	2
35-44	23.4	Black	6
45-54	21.28	White	90
55+	44.69	Other	2

Limitations

- High levels of *Political Astuteness* prior to conference participation cannot be ruled out and could potentially impact the magnitude of any change in *Political Astuteness* among participants.
- Selected questions on the *Modified Political Astuteness Inventory* tool were not included in the final analysis based on the projected feasibility or likelihood of changes in *Political Astuteness* between the pre- and post- conference periods.

References

- Available upon request

Acknowledgements

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IRB Approval

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