Outline

- Background

- Primary Research Question

- Research Design

- Methodology

- Analysis Plan

- Respondent Distribution

- Results

- Summary

NCSBN
Leading Regulatory Excellence

Background

- As of February 2021, the World Health Organization (WHO) reports cumulatively there has been 103 million confirmed cases of COVID-19, and 2.2 million resulting deaths.

- The monumental swell of the COVID-19 pandemic has strained healthcare systems and personnel world-wide. With nurses serving on the frontlines of hospitals, there are increasing concerns that nurses' capacity to provide care will be stretched to the breaking point by rising need.

- Nursing regulatory bodies have taken a variety of actions to safeguard the nursing workforce, and meet the expanded healthcare needs

NCSBN
Leading Regulatory Excellence

Primary Research Question

- This study seeks to descriptively examine what regulatory changes nursing regulatory bodies have adopted either temporarily, or permanently worldwide to meet this challenge.

- Secondary research questions are related to broad changes in:
  - telehealth practices
  - nurse mobility
  - prelicensure education
  - disciplinary process

NCSBN
Leading Regulatory Excellence

Research Design

- **What:** Web-survey

- **Who:** Representatives from non-US nursing jurisdictions

- **When:** January and February 2021

- **Why:** To identity what other jurisdictions have enacted related to nurse generalists; and to inform future research and policy decisions.

Methodology

- The survey was administered using Qualtrics (Provo, UT).

- The Global Regulatory Atlas: COVID-19 Pandemic Response Survey was 41 items with branch logic, across the following domains:

  - Governance
  - Practice & Workforce
  - Education

  - Teleheath
  - Discipline

- Translated in 11 languages including: Albanian, Arabic, Chinese, Dutch, French German, Korean, Portuguese, Russian , Spanish and Swedish.

Analysis Plan

Final Samples:

• 30 Jurisdictions

• Frequencies, and counts were drawn upon to assess responses.

• All analyses were conducted using SAS, Tableau, and Google Translate for free response items.

NCSBN
Leading Regulatory Excellence

Distribution of Responses

NCSBN
Leading Regulatory Excellence

Nursing Regulatory Governance

Question
Has there been any regulatory actions taken to aid the movement of nurses into, and out of the jurisdiction?

ncsbn.org

NCSBN
Leading Regulatory Excellence

Practice & Workforce

- Only Poland and Sweden, and two Latin American countries have **expanded the role of the nurse** in our sample.

- Five jurisdictions (New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Poland, and El Salvador) adjusted the process for **accepting internationally education nurses**.

- One third of our sample (10) **altered their continued competency requirements** for generalist nurses through online course offerings.

- 60% (16) of our sample allowed **retired nurses to re-enter the workforce**.

NCSBN
Leading Regulatory Excellence

Education: Changes to Didactic Curriculum

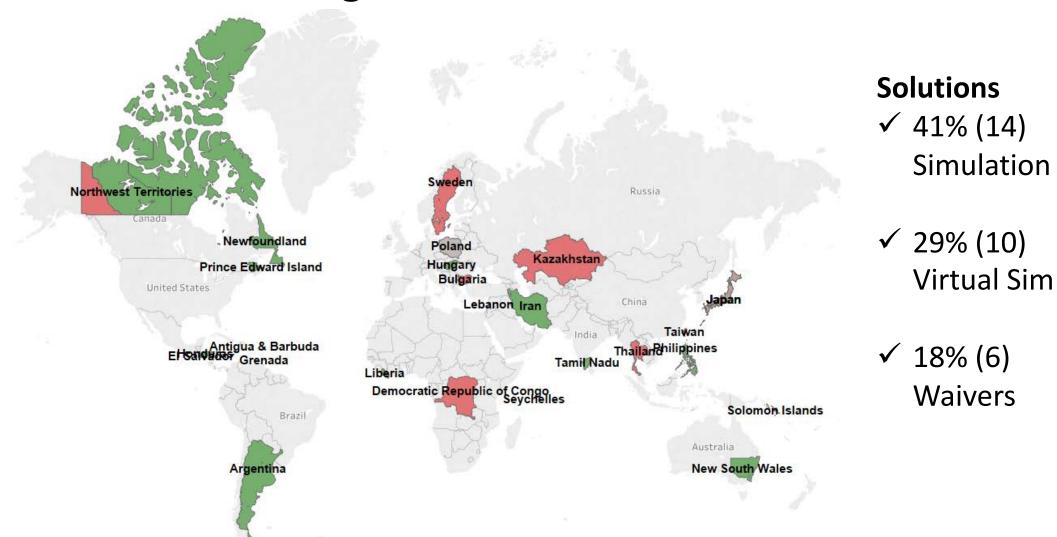**Question**
To your knowledge, have there been any changes to nursing students' lecture-based education during the pandemic?

NCSBN
Leading Regulatory Excellence

Education: Changes to the Clinical Curriculum

Solutions
- ✓ 41% (14) Simulation
- ✓ 29% (10) Virtual Sim
- ✓ 18% (6) Waivers

ncsbn.org

NCSBN
Leading Regulatory Excellence

Discipline During the Pandemic

- The **majority** (17) of jurisdictions in our sample reported they received about the **same number of complains** during the pandemic relation to pre-pandemic times.

- A **larger majority** (25) of jurisdictions indicated their disciplinary process remain unchanged.

More complaints
(3)

Many fewer complaints
(3)

Fewer complaints
(4)

About the same number of complaints
(17)

NCSBN
Leading Regulatory Excellence

Changes to Teleheath

- 30% (8) of jurisdictions made changes to their telehealth policies.

- Interestingly, 37% (10) of jurisdictions reported, their population received care from outside of their borders . However, only 15% (4) reported their nurses within their jurisdiction provided care outside of their borders.

Summary

- The COVID-19 pandemic has strained nurses' capacity to provide care, and nursing regulatory bodies have taken a variety of actions to support the nursing workforce.

- Nursing education appeared to the most impacted across the majority of jurisdiction, with more lectured-based courses delivered online, and clinical courses completed in simulation.

- Jurisdictions brought retired nurses back into the workforce, and offered virtual continued competency courses on COVID-19 preparedness.

- Residents are receiving cross-jurisdictional care.

NCSBN
Leading Regulatory Excellence

Discussion

NCSBN

Leading Regulatory Excellence