

Pilot Research to Develop a Nursing Digital Health Capability Framework in Chile

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Abstract. The Global Digital Health Strategy emphasizes digital health workforce development to reach a sustainable health system. In Chile, a digital health capability framework to support the transition towards digital health and workforce development is still missing. A survey will be applied at a national level. The Development of a Chilean Nursing Digital Health Capability Framework will identify the capabilities of nurses in digital health innovation and improve the quality and safety of healthcare nationwide.

Keywords. Nursing workforce development, nursing informatics education, workforce capacity, health policy

1. Introduction

Digital Health is defined as the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) for health [1]. The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed the strong need for innovation in healthcare to transform the healthcare system towards a more integrated and people-centered model, allowing public health to reach all people [2]. The Global Digital Health Strategy 2020-2025, emphasizes digital health workforce development to reach a sustainable health system [3]. Currently, in Chile, there are several initiatives derived from the national digital health strategy, but a digital health capability framework to support and guide the transition towards digital health and workforce development is still missing [4]. Having health professionals adequately trained to make decisions based on correctly captured, managed and used information is key [5]. In this context, a deficit of trained professional profiles, lack of standardization in the adoption of knowledge, and low capabilities for the development and implementation of digital health projects have been described in Chile [6]. Chilean nurses graduate following five years of baccalaureate, progressing to coordinate and lead health teams in various health contexts [7]. In Chile, nursing represents more than 40% of the healthcare workforce [8]. Therefore, developing a digital health capability framework that supports the quality and safety of healthcare and also that empowers nurses to promote digital innovation for

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patient-centered health practice addresses the needs of the largest proportion of the healthcare workforce.

2. Objective

- To identify the current state of Chilean nurses digital health capabilities.
- To determine the digital health capabilities required of nurses in Chile.
- To empower Chilean nurses to deliver high quality and safety patient-centered care through digital health innovation.

3. Methods

A cross-sectional web-based pilot survey “Nursing Capabilities in Digital Health in Chile” will be applied, which is validated by the Australian Digital Health Agency and the Australasian Institute of Digital Health and translated and adapted to the national context. In phase 1, a sample of 14 regional nurse leaders belonging to the Chilean College of Nurses will be approached for the pilot survey using qualitative methodology. Thematic analysis will be used during data analysis. During phase 2, the survey will be replicated at a national level to a sample of 2500 nurses, recruited from the Chilean Nursing Workforce. The Institute of National Statistics has been engaged to support phase two data analysis, following a quantitative approach. The study will be evaluated by the ethics committee of Chilean College of Nurses. The digital environment will be managed by the Latin- American Digital Innovation Center (CIDLA).

4. Expected Results

The Development of a Chilean Nursing Digital Health Capability Framework will identify the capabilities of nurses in digital health, promote digital health innovation, and improve the quality and safety of healthcare nationwide.

5. Conclusions

- Identification of Chilean nurses digital health capabilities requirements.
- Digital health innovation led by nurses.
- High quality and safety patient-centered nurse care delivery through digital health development. International recognition of Chilean Nurses contribution to research and digital health innovation.

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