

**Motivating Oregon registered nurses (RNs) to pursue a bachelor of science degree in nursing (BSN):
Activities of the Oregon Action Coalition (OAC) education workgroup**

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PRESENTATION FORMAT: Oral Presentation

TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE: Oregon public health leaders, nursing students, educators, nurses

ABSTRACT: Research has shown that when nurses are prepared at the baccalaureate level, this is associated with fewer medication errors, lower mortality rates, and better patient outcomes. Currently only 45 percent of Oregon nurses have earned a bachelor's degree in nursing. The Oregon Action Coalition (OAC) Education Workgroup is striving to achieve the Institute of Medicine (IOM)'s goal of increasing the number of baccalaureate nurses to 80 percent by 2020. A literature review helped to identify common barriers nurses encounter when obtaining a BSN degree. Over the past two years the workgroup created documents such as a frequently asked questions (FAQ) document and a table providing information to nurses about options for furthering their education. These resource documents are accessible online and will be distributed during state and local conferences. Additionally, a motivational video was created with participation of several nurse volunteers who were working on or had recently completed their RN to BSN degrees. This campaign will increase awareness and hopefully encourage registered nurses to engage in furthering their education.

OBJECTIVE(S): The learner will be able to describe how the OAC is working to achieve the IOM's goal of increasing the percentage of baccalaureate-prepared nurses in Oregon.

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