

BEN GURION UNIVERSITY



# BEYOND SHOTS IN ARMS: ASSESSING THE COUNTRY-LEVEL INVOLVEMENT OF NURSES IN COVID-19 VACCINATION CAMPAIGNS



Saritte Perlman, Judith Shamian, Howard Catton, Moriah E. Ellen



**“WITHOUT THE NURSES...  
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN  
IMPOSSIBLE”**

SPAIN-1



# BACKGROUND

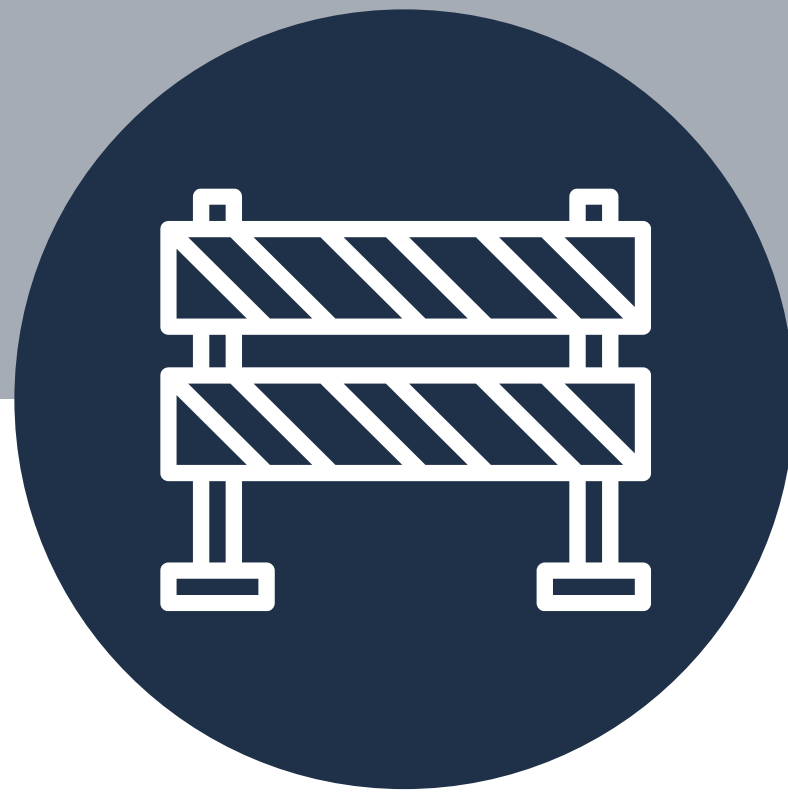
- COVID-19 affected millions
- Nurses are critical players in vaccine uptake
- Evidence-informed decision making relies on key stakeholders
- ICN previous studies



# AIMS



Assess nursing  
engagement



Identify barriers and  
facilitators



Suggest areas for  
improvement





# METHODS

## **In-depth semi-structured interviews**

- Interview guide developed
- Recruitment of executive nursing representatives
- Recorded, transcribed, (translated), coded, thematically analyzed



# PARTICIPANTS



# DEMOGRAPHICS

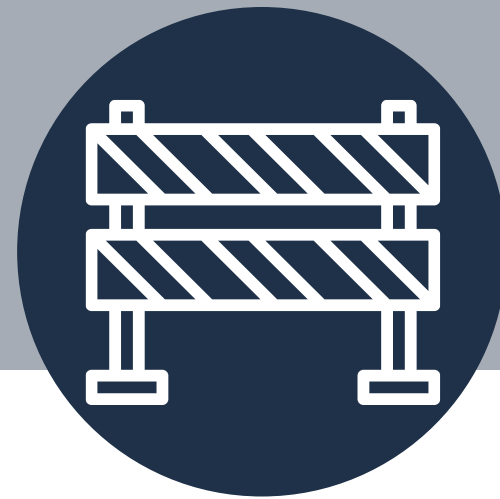
<u>Characteristics</u>	<u>Study population</u>
<b>Gender</b>	
Male, n (%)	2 (14.3%)
Female, n (%)	12 (85.7%)
<b>Place of employment</b>	
National nursing association or organization, n (%)	6 (42.9%)
Government, n (%)	8 (57.1%)
Years as RN, mean (range)	28.4 (11-40)
Years in a leadership or management position, mean (range)	19.3 (0-35)
Years in current role, mean (range)	4.5 (1.5-8)



# RESULTS



INVOLVEMENT



BARRIERS



FACILITATORS



SUGGESTIONS





# AREAS OF INVOLVEMENT

MEMBERSHIP ON ADVISING AND DECISION-MAKING COMMITTEES

OPERATIONALIZATION PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION AND COORDINATION PROCESSES

EDUCATION EFFORTS

USE OF MEDIA AND NURSES IN THE MEDIA





## MEMBERSHIP ON ADVISING AND DECISION-MAKING COMMITTEES

**“We worked on everything from the prioritization to the setup for the mass vaccination centers, to the review of medication management policies, to the hiring of staff to the front end right up to the delivery to putting teams together, so I was on that national team”**

**(IRE-1B)**

**“I'm one of the people who stands up and does press conferences. I do media interviews, I do television, radio, print, webinars. I don't know, everything, everything public, Facebook, Instagram. My face is everywhere”**

**(AUS-2)**

## USE OF MEDIA AND NURSES IN THE MEDIA



# BARRIERS



LACK OF A VOICE,  
RECOGNITION, AND  
APPRECIATION



WORKFORCE-RELATED  
ISSUES



DECENTRALIZATION OF  
RESPONSIBILITY AND  
AUTHORITY



SUPPLY AND ACCESS ISSUES

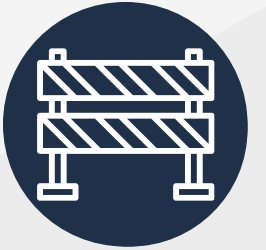


DOWNSTREAM EFFECTS OF  
THE PANDEMIC



OTHER NON-COVID RELATED  
NURSING BARRIERS





## LACK OF A VOICE, RECOGNITION, AND APPRECIATION

**“There is a general recognition, recognized by the [healthcare] leaders, by society, by all, but [anything] concrete at the policy level, nothing really happens. And that frustrates nurses”  
(POR-1)**

**“Federal government [provided] guidance.. and then provinces and territories [created] their own, making their own decisions based off of that guidance, and then each public health unit [created] their own rollout for the implementation of the actual vaccine”  
(CAN-2)**

## DECENTRALIZATION OF RESPONSIBILITY AND AUTHORITY



# FACILITATORS

EXISTING SYSTEMS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

NURSING PROFESSION-RELATED SKILLS AND  
COMPETENCIES

COMMUNICATION AND MESSAGING

MULTIDISCIPLINARY AND INTERAGENCY WORK

RECOGNITION AND VISIBILITY OF NURSES AND  
NURSING

TRUST IN NURSES

NURSING PRIDE





## NURSING PROFESSION-RELATED SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

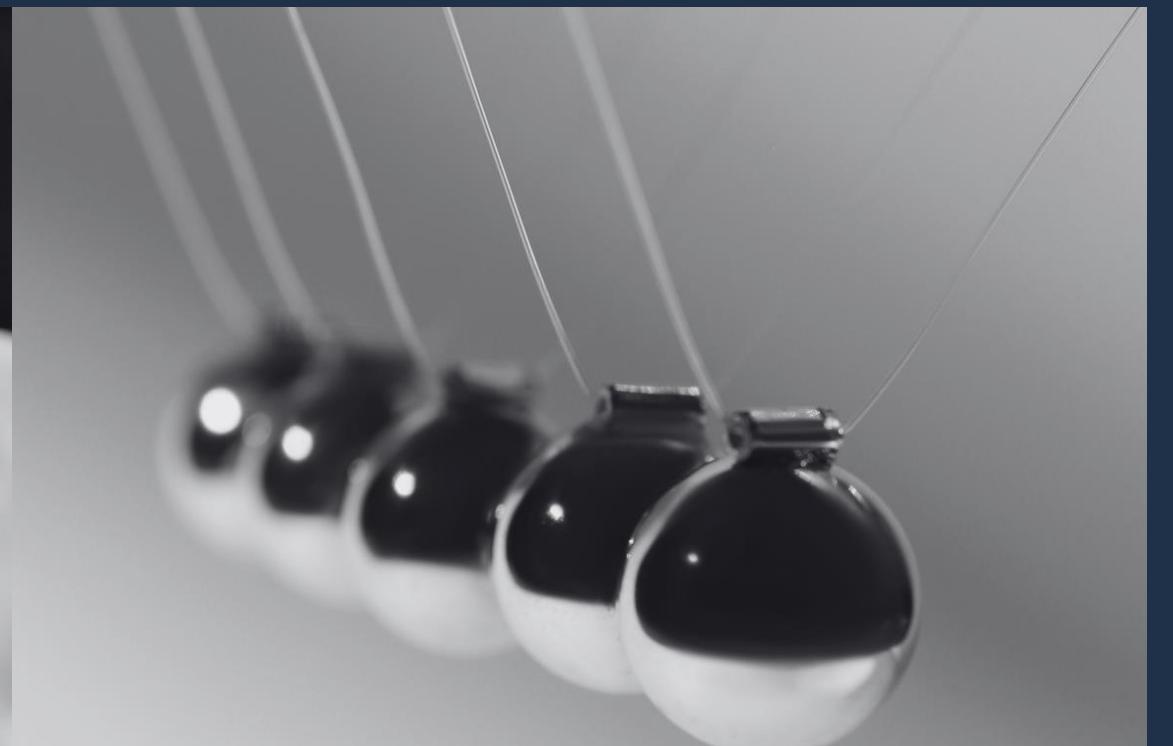
**“That empathy and that closeness to the population that allows us to know what their real needs are and to have been able to provide solutions and adapt the whole process to those needs”  
(SPA-1)**

**“we are collecting records of side effects of vaccination from every medical staff who [received the] vaccination with priority. We [publish] this data for [the] general [population]”  
(JAPAN-1)**

## COMMUNICATION AND MESSAGING



# SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVED INVOLVEMENT



## CULTURE CHANGE

Advocacy and inclusion

## MOMENTUM

Visibility, better follow through, management

## RESPONSIBILITY

WHO, ICN, government, system





## COVID-RELATED OPPORTUNITIES AND MOMENTUM TO BUILD ON

**“within these policies, it outlines who should be on the decision-making committees. It'll say, you know, for example, a physician, a social worker, or a nurse and ethicist, a lawyer, so it really spells out who should have a seat at the table. And I would want the same thing as we think about mass vaccination clinics”  
(USA-1B)**

**“we have to make our voice heard in all levels of health policymaking in all areas from prevention to end of life care”  
(GREECE-1)**

## CULTURE CHANGE WITHIN NURSING AND HEALTHCARE





# DISCUSSION

**IMPORTANCE OF NURSING ROLES**

**VALUE OF NURSES AND NURSING**



# POLICY AND RESEARCH IMPLICATIONS



NURSING LEADERS



EDUCATION



INCLUSION



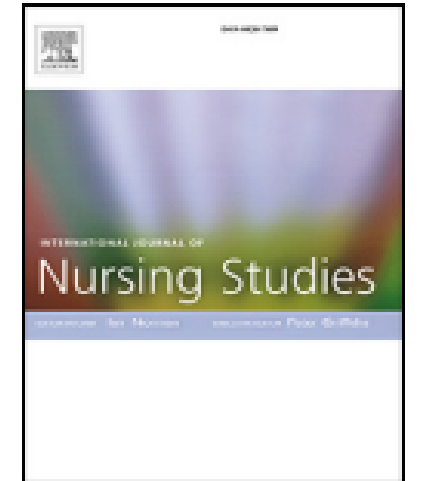


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# Assessing the country-level involvement of nurses in COVID-19 vaccination campaigns: A qualitative study

Saritte Perlman <sup>a</sup>, Judith Shamian <sup>b</sup>, Howard Catton <sup>b</sup>, Moriah Ellen <sup>a,c,d,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Health Policy and Management, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Israel

<sup>b</sup> International Council of Nurses, Geneva, Switzerland

<sup>c</sup> Institute for Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, University of Toronto, Canada

<sup>d</sup> McMaster Health Forum, McMaster University, Canada





# Thank you!

@ moriahellen

✉ ellenmo@bgu.ac.il

