

**Phase 2: Strengthening the Quality of Community Health Nursing Practice:
 A Pan-Canadian Survey of Community Health Nurses'
 Continuing Education Needs**

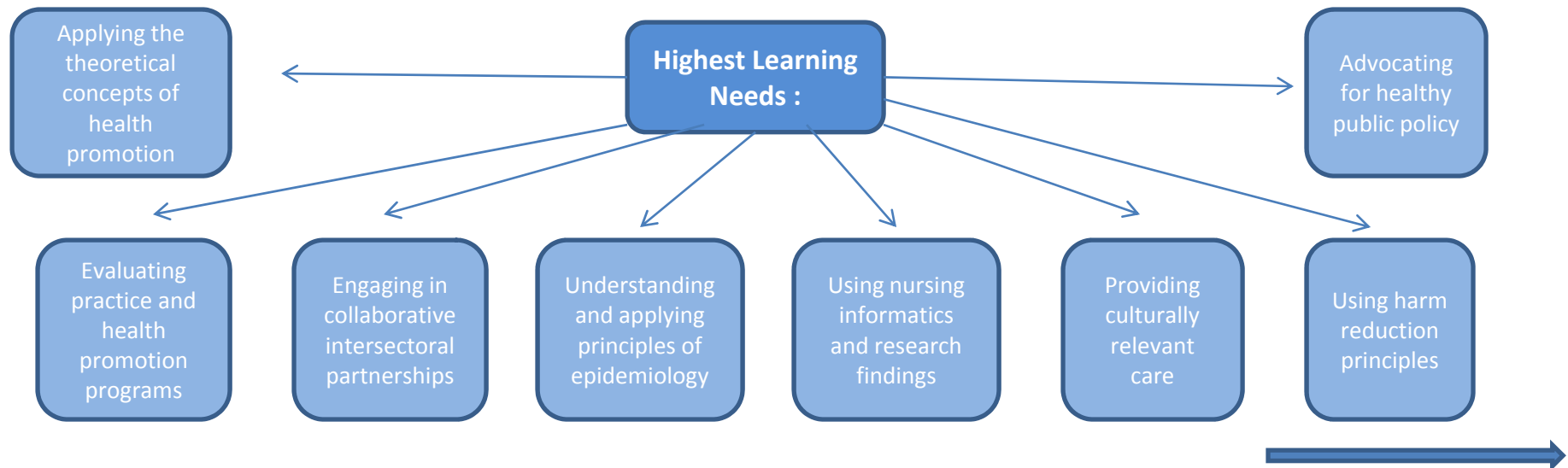
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BACKGROUND

The Canadian Community Health Nursing Standards of Practice (CCHN Standards) were released in 2003 and reformatted in 2008 by the Community Health Nurses Association of Canada . However, no research has explored the capacity of community health nurses (CHNs) to meet these standards, with the exception of the Phase I work completed by this research team in early 2008 in Nova Scotia and Ontario. A valid and reliable tool to measure CHN activities and learning needs was developed in the initial phase. The **purpose of Phase II** was to expand the survey to identify current practice activities and measure continuing education needs of CHNs across Canada in relation to the CCHN Standards.

KEY RESULTS



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LEARNING NEEDS RESULTS CONT'D

- The majority of nurses did not answer or chose the responses “unsure” or “not applicable” in relation to items that referred to theoretical concepts of health promotion.
- There was a slight trend indicating CHNs with less experience had slightly higher learning needs.
- Significant differences in learning needs existed among some provinces and territories in relation to many topics.

IMPLICATIONS

Top learning needs suggest future content areas for capacity building in continuing education and undergraduate nursing programs

Geographic variations suggest continuing education programs may need to be tailored at provincial/territorial levels

STUDY LIMITATIONS

- No universal definition of “community health nurse”, therefore difficult to compare sectors
- Small sample of respondents for theoretical questions
- CCHN Standards language lacked clarity
- Response rate (40%)

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