Five DDM Options for School Nurses

**Parent survey**

**Purpose:** to determine parents’ perceptions of the effectiveness of nurse visits for their children

**Timing:** collect throughout year, aggregate at end of each year to compare to previous year

**Notes:** could use surveys for particular groups of students, like those who must receive medications

**Examples:**
http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07e8oh6g2khpa52zzq/a019qhsm4geks/questions
http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RQ33W52

**Seat time/unnecessary visits**

**Purpose:** to measure degree to which unnecessary visits to the nurse are reduced or students’ time spent in class is increased

**Timing:** collect monthly or quarterly, compare beginning of year to end of year

**Notes:** there may be groups for whom an effort to increase class time is particularly important (‘frequent fliers’): could limit measurement to those students; maybe this is a measure of how much time certain students spend in the nurse’s office (could depend on tracking systems already in place)

**Effects of health lesson or educational/prevention campaign**

**Purpose:** to measure how effective the lesson/campaign was in increasing student knowledge or changing behavior

**Timing:** before and after lesson/campaign, maybe during (depends!)

**Notes:** One health lesson is probably too small a unit to examine: a unit is more reasonable, though you could make a case for one lesson in some instances. A campaign would have challenges in measuring effects, but could be hugely consequential for the school environment.
**Completed vision exam cycles**

**Purpose:** to determine how many students—or, more realistically, parents—follow through on results of school-based vision screenings by seeing an ophthalmologist or optometrist, returning the form to the school nurse, and getting glasses (and wearing them!)

**Timing:** yearly (post-test only format)

**Notes:** This may work best in elementary and possibly middle schools.

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**Independent monitoring of health needs or accessories**

**Purpose:** to measure how many eligible students increase the frequency of bringing their own snack, monitoring their own health needs, rather than relying on the nurse to provide them with necessities

**Timing:** beginning and end of year, or repeated measures including middle of the year

**Notes:** This may work best in middle and high schools, and for certain groups of students, such as those with diabetes.