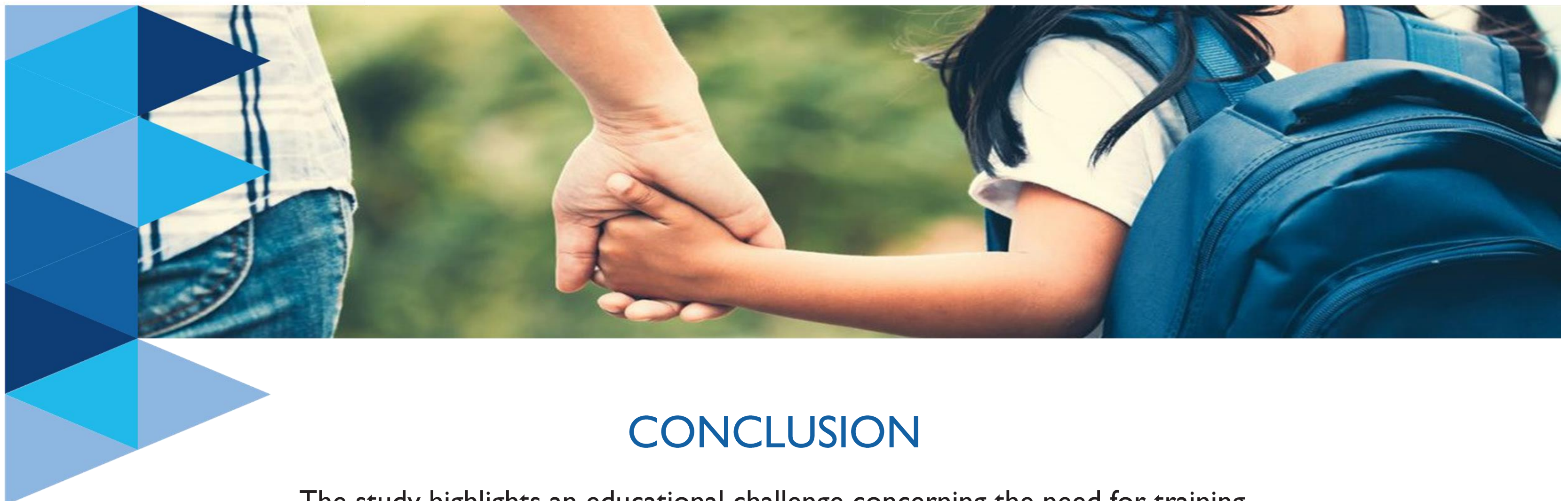


School nurses' experience of communicating growth data and weight development to parents of children 8 and 10 years of age

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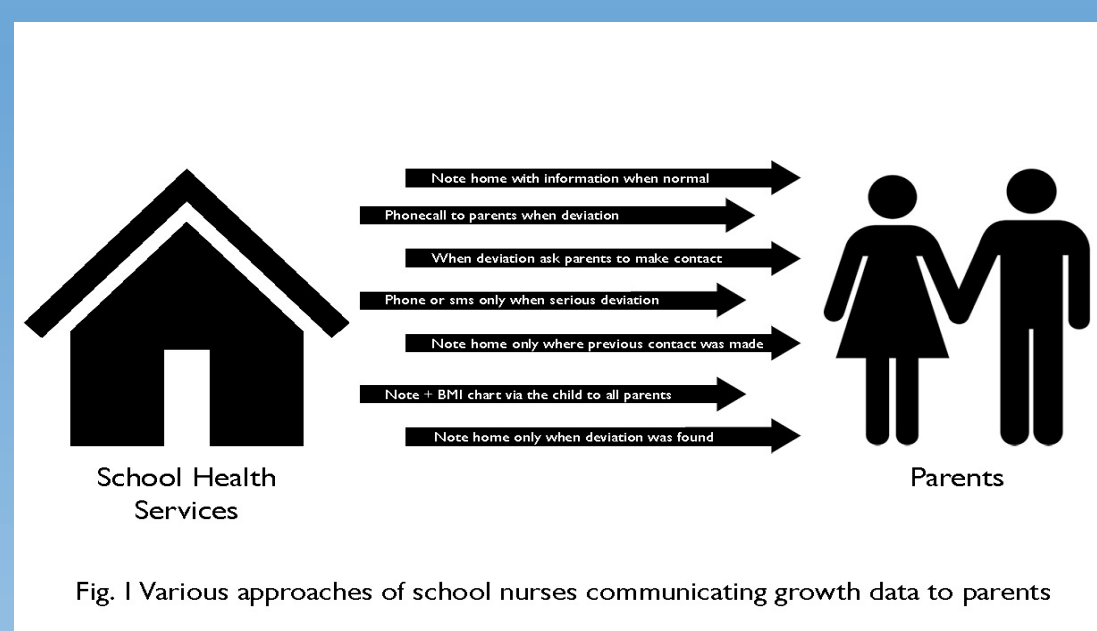
CONCLUSION

The study highlights an educational challenge concerning the need for training, skills, and strategies for communication between school nurses and parents.

RESULTS

Challenges in the professional role

The school nurses expressed a lack of knowledge, skills and tools in communication and used several different approaches in communicating growth data and weight development to parents.



Sustainable communication with parents

The school nurses described the value of creating a dialogue, a supportive approach and the building of a relation with the parents as essential.

Barriers in communicating the child's weight

The school nurses described the experience of stigma concerning the subject of overweight and obesity, increased concern when they detected underweight and an ambivalence towards measuring weight.

AIM

To describe school nurses' experience of communicating growth data and weight development to parents of school children ages 8 and 10 years.

METHODS

The design of the study is a descriptive, qualitative design with purposive and snowball sampling. Sixteen interviews with school nurses were conducted and analysed with qualitative content analysis.

BACKGROUND

School nurses are key health professionals in interventions targeting the early onset of overweight and obesity during childhood.



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