Sexuality is an important aspect of patient care, but research consistently demonstrates that nurses do not address sexuality with clients, but may not feel comfortable doing so. As a result, the collaborative group processes leading to the development and testing of the Sexuality Attitudes and Beliefs Inventory (SABI) were conducted to evaluate if nurses acknowledge their professional responsibility to address sexuality with their clients, but may not feel comfortable doing so.

The results of the pilot study suggest that what nurses believe patients expect from them, time availability, and confidence and comfort are significant barriers to incorporating sexuality assessment and counseling into nursing practice. These findings emphasize the challenges to promoting responsible sexual behavior with the goal of promoting general health and well-being. A relatively new area of study, the field of human sexuality presents significant barriers to incorporating sexuality assessment and counseling into nursing practice. It is important to recognize the theoretical foundations of human sexuality and to develop knowledge and skills to deliver care to promote sexual health.