Predictors of Success on the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses Among Transfer BSN Students

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Statement of the Problem

- Critical need to prepare registered nurses at the baccalaureate level

- Transfer students come to baccalaureate nursing programs from many educational venues

- Transfer students understudied in the research

Purpose of the Study

To identify relationships between certain demographic and academic criterion and NCLEX-RN success on the first attempt among transfer nursing students who have graduated from a baccalaureate nursing program.

Significance of the Study

Findings of this study have implications for:

- Providing an understanding of this growing population of nursing students: transfer students

- Educational policy: Transfer admissions policies/Testing and Progression Policies

- Faculty who advise and mentor this student population

- Future employers and the public that will be the recipients of their professional care

The Literature: What is known and What is not.

- Known
  - The NCLEX-RN is the most visible outcome for measuring success in nursing students and nursing programs
  - First time pass rates impact accreditation status, curriculum decisions, and recruitment of future students

The Literature: What is known and What is not.

- Unknown
  - Are the predictors that have used for traditional nursing students and NCLEX-RN success applicable to transfer BSN nursing students?
  - Few studies have focused solely on the transfer BSN nursing student.
  - Although the population of transfer BSN nursing students is growing, their size is a limitation in research.

Methodology

- Study Design
  - Retrospective quantitative design
  - Theoretical framework: Benner
  - Setting: medium sized Mid-Atlantic baccalaureate nursing program
  - Data collection: Secondary analysis of data collected from an electronic student database and from the public records maintained by the New Jersey State Board of Nursing

Methodology

- Study Variables
  - Independent: Age, Gender, Pathophysiology final grade, Adult Nursing I final grade, TEAS examination score, and Final GPA
  - Dependent: NCLEX-RN success

Methodology

- Data Analysis
  - Logistical Regression
  - Backwards Regression

Descriptive Analysis

- Data Collection Dates
  - 2004 to 2009
- Admission Numbers
  - Average admission of transfer students in this university: 53
  - Sample size: N = 175
- Age
  - Range: 21 years to 46 years
- Gender
  - Females: $n = 162$ (92.6%)
  - Males: $n = 13$ (7.4%)

Descriptive Analysis

- Pathophysiology Final Grade

  - $M = 3.42$ $SD = 1.32$

- Adult Nursing I

  - $M = 3.37$ $SD = .96$

- TEAS Scores

  - $M = 57.43$ $SD = 30.47$

- Final GPA

  - $M = 3.235$ $SD = .294$

Question

- What factors contribute to passing the NCLEX-RN on the first attempt among transfer nursing students who graduated from a BSN program?

Question

- To what extent do the student demographic variables of age and gender predict passing the NCLEX-RN on the first attempt, among transfer nursing students who graduated from a BSN program?

Question

- To what extend do academic variables predict passing the NCLEX-RN on the first attempt for transfer students?

Question

- To what extent does the TEAS examination predict passing the NCLEX-RN on the first attempt for transfer students?

Limitations

- The lack of archived data such as:
  - transfer GPA
  - Number of previous college attempts
  - ESL
  - First generation to attend college in family of origin
  - SES
  - Student status: commuter/non-commuter
  - Test taking abilities
  - Sample size

Limitations

- Changes in the requirements for transfer students.
- Curriculum changes
- TEAS Examination
- Entry level nursing courses not included
- Nature of the methodology

Implications

- Establishment of transfer requirements

- Standardized requirements for the administration of the TEAS examination

- Creation of a transition model to address the educational needs of the transfer BSN student

Future Research

- Research both qualitative and quantitative
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- Continued research to identify early predictors of NCLEX-RN success

- Multisite studies

- Exit Examinations and their impact on the NCLEX-RN success

Thank you.

QUESTIONS

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