Project Title: The Factors Associated with Successful Completion of a Master’s of Science in Nursing Program

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Purpose of the Study:

The purpose of this study is to compare the association of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and the undergraduate grade point average (UGPA) with the successful completion of a Master’s of Science in Nursing Degree (MSN).

Abstract:

Proposed is a study to determine how strongly GRE scores and UGPA are associated with 1) The completion of a MSN program and 2) associated with final graduate grade point average (GPA). MSN admission committees face the challenge of choosing from among hundreds of qualified applicants. For years, MSN admission committees have relied on the GRE and UGPA as a standard way of comparing applicants and potentially judging success in their respective programs. Some highly ranked MSN programs are no longer requiring the GRE as an essential admission requirement. Furthermore, most of the studies focusing on the predictability of the GRE and UGPA associated with success (graduation and graduate GPA) in the graduate nursing programs were conducted and published from the 1970’s to mid-1980’s. Taking into consideration the timeframe of these studies and the changing admissions requirements in other top-ranking universities, we plan to examine our student data to help direct our admission committee’s decision-making processes. Our specific aims are:

Specific Aim 1: To determine if GRE scores are associated with the completion of a MSN program.
Specific Aim 2: To determine if UGPA is associated with the completion of a MSN program.
Specific Aim 3: To determine the association between GRE scores and the final graduate GPA in a MSN program.
Specific Aim 4: To determine the association between UGPA and the final graduate GPA in a MSN program.