

A Comparison of RN-NCLEX First Time Pass Rate for Online Nursing Students and Traditional Face-To-face Nursing Students

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Background

- Online nursing programs have grown in numbers in an effort to increase the number of practicing RNs.
- Many question whether online nursing programs are a viable way to produce safe and competent nurses.
- The benchmark of any nursing program success is measured by NCLEX first time pass rate.



Purpose

The purpose of this study was to examine the effectiveness of two nursing education course formats, face-to-face and online, on student outcomes as measured by the NCLEX-RN first time pass rate.



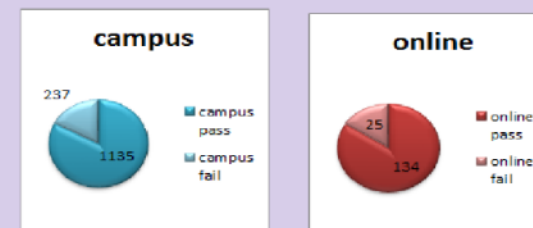
Methods

- The NCLEX first time pass rate data from 2012-2015 was obtained.
- This data involved 1372 on campus and 159 online associate degree students.
- Compiled, analyzed, and documented data.



Results

A retrospective archival quantitative analysis was performed on existing NCLEX first time pass rate data over a 4 year period on the Weber State University ADN program.



Statistically there was no significant difference in NCLEX-RN pass rate for online students vs. campus students

- Pass frequency online 0.8427673, campus 0.8272595
- Fail frequency online 0.1572327, campus 0.1727405
- Overall p-value of 0.7385

Conclusion

Online is a proven method of educating student nurses as evidenced by this study of NCLEX-RN first time pass rate.

Further studies would be beneficial as to the correlation between NCLEX-RN first time pass rate and the competency of a new nursing graduate.