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.

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.