

Chartering the Seas for the Most Effective Post-Graduation Student Success

Dr. Linda Kaye Walters, PhD, MSN, RN, CNE

Dr. Linda Smith McQuiston, PhD, MS, RN

Dr. Jessica Nelson, DNP, MS, RN

PURPOSE

- Increase student success in relationship to first-time pass rates for the National Council Licensing Examination – Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN).

BACKGROUND

- Noted a decline in NCLEX-RN first-time pass rates in both traditional and baccalaureate nursing completion programs
 - Need to meet benchmark to maintain accreditation
 - Warning from Accreditor
- Decreased faculty and student morale
- Change in integrated testing vendors
- Creation of N490, Licensure Preparation Course, within the curriculum.
- Support from department chairperson and upper administration.

PLAN

- Empower and enable students to be successful on the first attempt on the NCLEX-RN
- Combination Approach:
 - Pilot group
 - Established a written pre/post-graduation plan
 - Assigned a post-graduation coach
 - Incorporate one or more testing platforms post-graduation

WRITTEN PLAN

- Students developed a first/mid/final- action plan that would help with the following:
 - Time-management
 - Incorporate all aspects of student's life into the calendar
 - Develop a study routine prior to graduation
 - Allows them to see what is working and what is not working
 - Make changes as needed prior to graduation
 - Develops an accountability relationship with N 490 faculty that will carry onto post-graduation coach

ADDITIONAL TESTING PLATFORM

- Obtained an internal university funded grant
 - Finance a small amount of additional computerized bank of questions
 - Grant allowed for 19 students
- Post predictor exam
 - Identified those students whom were at highest risk for being unsuccessful on their first NCLEX-RN attempt
 - Lottery was held for both programs
 - 14 traditional baccalaureate program
 - 5 baccalaureate completion program (BNC)

NOTIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL TESTING PLATFORM

- Notified students via email:
 - additional question banks available post-graduation free of charge.
 - account information sent through the computerized question bank.
 - 90 day subscription with over 2000 questions, and 2 readiness exams.

TESTING PLATFORM RESULTS

- **Traditional Cohort**
 - **Average**
 - # of Questions utilized: 1192
 - # total time spent: 19:38 hours/minutes
 - # Passed on first attempt: 12 out of 14 (86%)
- **BNC Cohort**
 - **Average**
 - # of Questions utilized: 990
 - # total time spent: 14:08 hours/minutes
 - # Passed on first attempt: 4 out of 5 (80%)

LIMITATIONS

- Pool too small
 - 19 students total
- Additional testing platform products could show different results
- Variables
 - Age
 - Different skill sets
 - For example = LPN may have developed poor study skills
 - Data
 - Did we sell it appropriately?
 - Free product proven to be successful for many

NURSING IMPLICATIONS

- Written Individualized Plan
 - pre-graduation
- Multiple Testing Platforms
 - post-graduation
- Nursing Faculty Support
 - post-graduation

CONCLUSION

| Traditional Cohort | | |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------|
| | # of Questions | Pass 1st Attempt |
| 1 | 675 | yes |
| 2 | 880 | yes |
| 3 | 361 | no |
| 4 | 2100 | yes |
| 5 | 2100 | yes |
| 6 | 750 | yes |
| 7 | 2085 | yes |
| 8 | 1099 | yes |
| 9 | 840 | yes |
| 10 | 2132 | yes |
| 11 | 873 | yes |
| 12 | 445 | yes |
| 13 | 1367 | yes |
| 14 | 980 | no |
| Average | 1191.928571 | 12 pass |
| BNC Cohort | | |
| | # of Question | Pass 1st Attempt |
| 1 | 1801 | yes |
| 2 | 170 | yes |
| 3 | 1150 | yes |
| 4 | 1488 | yes |
| 5 | 338 | no |
| Average | 989.4 | 4 pass |

- Post-graduation support increased success rate on the NCLEX-RN
- Adding additional question bank proved to increase first-time pass rate.

Questions???

