Does Affect Matter? A Correlation Study Between Affect & Exam Scores

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OBJECTIVE

To investigate the correlation between affective domain scores on the FISDAP Paramedic Entrance Examination (PEE) and success on the Paramedic Readiness Examination (PRE).

METHOD

An IRB-approved, retrospective study linked de-identified PEE and first-attempt PRE records. Three domainsagreeableness, conscientiousness, and neuroticism-were provided. R Studio was utilized for statistical analysis and graphical interpretation.



RESULTS

Using the Pearson correlation coefficient, affective scores (n=30) among the 1,097 students were compared with the ability to earn greater than 73 on the PRE, greater than 65 on the PRE, and higher subject-specific scores on the PRE. No significant correlation was found for any relationship investigated.

DISCUSSION

PRE scores with either the published cut score of 73 or cut score of 65, as well as all subject scores, showed a very weak relationship with any affective domain.

CONCLUSION

PEE affective domains provide weak indication of the student's ability to achieve high scores on PRE in either the overall score or subject-specific scores.