

**Poster Session III
Poster # 21**

Revised Version of Instrument To Measure Students' Research Self-Efficacy

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Purpose: Mentoring in nursing is important for socializing nurse researchers, developing a body of professional knowledge, and facilitating career choices of students. The purpose of this study was to revise a tool, The Clinical Research Appraisal Inventory (CRAI), previously used to measure physicians' research self-efficacy, for use with undergraduate and graduate students.

Theoretical Framework: Self-efficacy (Bandura, 1997) is concerned with one's perceived ability to perform tasks within a specific domain. Achievement of goals helps develop one's self-efficacy.

Methods: Data were collected through online completion of the CRAI. Item analysis was conducted on the original scale. Subscales on the original CRAI were used and factors on the revised tool were regressed on the subscales. The first factor of the full scale was regressed on the first factor of the reduced scale to determine the information lost.

Results: Participants were 123 undergraduate and graduate students participating in a larger study, "Efficacy Intervention to Promote Research Careers (1R01GM085383-01)." A revised 46-item scale was retained. Most subscales had adjusted R-squared >98%; however, two subscales were found not relevant to the population as undergraduate students frequently do not focus on 'Planning and Managing' or 'Funding a Research Study.' Further testing of the revised scale will be described.

Conclusions and Implications: Results demonstrated that the revised 46-item CRAI is a concise, valid, and reliable measure sensitive to undergraduate and graduate students' perceived research self-efficacy. Measurement of students' research self-efficacy is important so that mentors understand students' perceptions of their strengths and weaknesses and plan goals to increase their confidence and competence in research.