3) Brief COPE Scale (higher scores = better coping); 4) Acculturative Stress (ASSIS) (higher scores = lower acculturative stress); 5) demographic information. RESULTS: The mean age of the 19 participants was 28.9 years ± 4.6. A majority of the respondents were Asian (47.4%), female (73.7%), enrolled in the PhD program (73.7%), single (52.6%), international students (57.9%) and lived with family (47.4%). Mean PSQI score was 4.9 ± 1.3 and mean HADS was 9.8 ± 3.3. The results indicate that both the physical health and mental health summary scores were comparable to the general population. Overall, participants reported low stress (GSI-8) levels (mean = 56.5 ± 10.8, range = 21–147) and engaged in mid-range levels of coping mechanisms to deal with stress (mean = 71.42 ± 7.1; range = 28–140). Among international students, acculturative stress levels (mean = 51.10 ± 27.9; range = 36–180) were lower. CONCLUSIONS: There is a paucity of quantitative data for perceived stress among international students. The results from this current study will be used to implement a future survey among a larger and more diverse sample of graduate students.

PH74

A SIMPLE AND EFFECTIVE APPROACH FOR ANALYZING MULTIVARIATE LONGITUDINAL HEALTH OUTCOMES IN OBSERVATIONAL STUDIES

Kohn1,2, Spießmann K1, Ochs L1, Koh WY1, Tu C2

1University of New England, Biddeford, ME, USA

OBJECTIVES: The purpose of this paper is to propose a simple and efficient approach for analyzing multivariate longitudinal data (MLD), such as longitudinal health-related quality of life (HRQoL) assessments in observational studies. This will be accomplished using the combination of two popular statistical methods for causal inference and multivariante data, namely the inverse probability-weighted (IPW) estimator and principal component analysis (PCA). METHODS: Multivariate outcomes at each time point will be converted to the first principal component score (FPCS) for each subject. Then all FPCS will be composited into a numerical observation using the area under a curve (AUC). The IPW estimator is used to compare the difference between treatment groups in terms of the AUC and 95% bootstrap percentile confidence interval (BPCI) is (-3.06, -3.59). Since the BPCI does not contain zero, we claim that the treated group (M=1) is significantly different from the control group (M=0) at a 5% level in overall longitudinal multivariate health outcomes. CONCLUSIONS: In this paper, we propose a simple and efficient approach that overcomes the difficulty of analyzing MLD in practice. We demonstrate how to use our proposed method with a simulated dataset. Our simulated data set allowed us to demonstrate how our proposed method may be particularly useful for analyzing longitudinal HRQoL assessments in medical studies.

PH75

ASSESSMENT OF MEDICAL AND PHARMACY STUDENTS’ KNOWLEDGE AND PERCEPTIONS ABOUT GENERIC MEDICINES AND THEIR QUALITY AND PRICES IN KABUL – AFGHANISTAN

Bashar M, Ahmad Hassali MA

University of New England, Biddeford, ME, USA

OBJECTIVES: To assess medical and pharmacy students’ knowledge and perception about generic medicines and its quality and prices in Kabul: Afghanistan. METHODS: A questionnaire based convenience sample of 255 was applied and study was conducted at Kabul Medical University and Pharmacy Faculty of Kabul University. The questionnaire had 19 questions and was designed in two sections (definition of generic and branded medicine and perception towards generic medicine). A total of 95 pharmacy and 125 medical students had voluntarily participated in the survey. SPSS version 16 was used for data analysis purposes. RESULTS: Among the total target n = 220 (response rate 86.27%) students voluntarily participated in the survey. The knowledge of the pharmacy students were working in the private pharmacy outlets. In reference to the knowledge about generic medicines n = 173 (67.84%) of the respondents had knowledge about generic medicines. The interviewees n = 205 (80.39%) expressed that the quality is their major concern, when buying generic medicines. Both groups have shown unanimity n = 216 (84.70%) that prescription of generic medicines promotes cost containment among the patient. CONCLUSIONS: The current study emphasizes that awareness and knowledge about generic medicines by including special topics in the medical and pharmacy curriculum is important and further promoting culture of prescribing generic medicines in daily practice.

PH76

MOMS2B: IMPROVING BIRTH OUTCOMES THROUGH USE OF CELL PHONES, TEXTING, AND INTENSIVE CASE MANAGEMENT

Grant M, Stango DA, Anthony D, Dinmone S, KolodJ, Michael KE, Tan-Torres S

AmeriHealth Caritas Family of Companies, Philadelphia, PA, USA

OBJECTIVES: Out of 200 of the most populous U.S. counties, Philadelphia has the fifth highest infant mortality rate. Keystone First partnered with Verizon Wireless to launch an initiative to provide free cell phones and minutes to directly deliver cell phones to high-risk pregnant members (control group: CG). Matching variables included age group (≤18, 18–34, 35+), race, ethnicity, number of high-risk diagnosis codes, living with family, main exposure to drug. Descriptive statistics and univariate analysis. RESULTS: Thirty-one participants at high-risk for premature delivery received cell phones and text messages. Sixty-six percent (84%) successfully delivered to term (≥31 days from expected delivery date). Babies born in the IG had higher birth weights than those born in the CG (mean, 38 71g), lower rates of low birth weight babies (28.42%) of the pharmacists. This study exam- ined the area under a curve (AUC). The IPW estimator is used to compare the difference between two treatments. The statistical results show that the 95% bootstrap percentile confidence interval (-3.06, -3.59). Since the BPCI does not contain zero, we claim that the treated group (M=1) is significantly different from the control group (M=0) at a 5% level in overall longitudinal multivariate health outcomes. CONCLUSIONS: In this paper, we propose a simple and efficient approach that overcomes the difficulty of analyzing MLD in practice. We demonstrate how to use our proposed method with a simulated dataset. Our simulated data set allowed us to demonstrate how our proposed method may be particularly useful for analyzing longitudinal HRQoL assessments in medical studies.