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Independent Study and Mentorship 3A

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Original Work Proposal

Introduction and Statement of Purpose

In my Original Work, I am planning on researching racial disparities that are widely present in Dermatology. I would like to specifically gain a better understanding on how this issue can be combated and how racial minorities can become more knowledgeable on possible dermatological problems the general public is susceptible to regardless of complexion (an example would be skin cancer). Based on prior knowledge, I am aware that the representation racial minorities receive in educational tools and products are low in comparison to other patients. With this being said, I could investigate these flaws by analyzing data and offer possible improvements.

Review of Skills and Research

In the process of creating an idea for the Original Work, I utilized information learned from Assessment 11 and 12 (where I was able to learn basic aspects of my topic). While conducting this research, common topics/phrases I searched were racial inequity, efficiency of sunscreen products, skin cancer, etc. These keywords allowed me to access a variety of peer-reviewed medical articles written by Dermatology professionals (this will be instrumental in the creation of my Original Work).

As the Independent Study and Mentorship course has progressed, I have gained helpful skills such as critical-thinking and time management while researching topics of Dermatology from prior assignments (research assessments, blogs, etc). Critical-thinking skills will be helpful in creating my Original Work as I have to gather crucial data to formulate evidence and a strong analysis of racial inequities in the research paper. In addition, time

management will be useful when going through these articles as I will have to analyze a large quantity of articles that discuss my topic.

Methodology

- **Participants:** (if you plan to use them): I plan on using no participants as the information being gathered is based on research articles from a variety of medical databases.
- **Materials:** List any materials you expect to use in the creation of your original work: Since I am writing a research paper, I will need to use a computer and a printer (to present). To formulate a strong assessment of racial inequities in Dermatology, I will need to research academic articles such as those from PubMed. The data being assembled must provide an in-depth explanation regarding how certain disparities are present/shown in dermatological products, learning materials, etc.
- **Description of Process and Procedures:** When creating my Original Work, I will utilize specific procedures to write my research paper. To provide a basic timeline, I plan on first researching the general idea of racial inequity as this will be the context/basis for my Final Project. Furthermore, I would like to gather information that explains certain issues with current products “available” for racial minorities (as most products do not accommodate these patients). After gathering data over this, I will then begin to focus on how dermatological companies can improve on their mechanisms/treatment of patients that have different skin complexions. Finally, I intend on offering my newly learned insight and offer suggestions for this issue through statistically backed data.

Utilization of Higher-Level Thinking Skills

When completing this assignment, I think evaluating and analyzing will be the two most important aspects to be mindful of. To go in depth, I will be reading articles and collecting data to construct a well-thought out research paper. When gathering all of this information, it will be important to decide whether the data is important enough to include as there will be a large amount. In addition, analyzing will be important when finding the issues

with racial inequities in Dermatology. When using the technique of analyzing, I will be able to understand how I can modify the inner workings of existing disparities and create my own suggestions (specifically targeting the sunscreen product).

Conclusions

The Original Work I am creating will provide me with an opportunity to inform people about racial inequities through a research paper. I intend for my Original Work to be concise and informative as my main goal is to help those that have experienced hardship with certain products not accommodating their skin complexion. Primarily, I am anticipating that I will understand the issues with these products and why these issues are present to begin with (by doing this, I will be able to provide assistance in improving them). As mentioned above, my Original Work will contribute to my Final Work idea of proposing a plan to improve current sunscreen products for dermatological companies (creating a higher representation for racial minority groups). In terms of my research paper I will be writing, it will provide the general public with information on a variety of unknown issues.