Longitudinal Assessment of Basic Science Retention in Dental Students

Abstract

In light of the importance of the integration of biomedical science foundational knowledge into the clinical study of dentistry, this study’s goal is to assess the retention of the basic science knowledge base by our students. Students from Creighton’s Dental class of 2017 will take a 50 question multiple choice exam anonymously that covers material from five basic science areas taught in the first year curriculum. Retesting will take place annually during their four years at the School of Dentistry. Results of the examination will be analyzed independently as well as compared to the previous year(s). In addition, retention analysis will be performed between disciplines. Findings from this study will be considered when addressing future curriculum changes particularly those that encompass a longitudinal focus.

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