

Can USMLE Scores Predict Resident Performance on the CREOG In-Training Examination?

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Objective

To evaluate if United States Medical Licensure Examination (USMLE) scores can predict residents' performance on the Council on Resident Education in Obstetrics and Gynecology (CREOG) in-training examination.

Methods

— Files of 42 residents who completed an OB/GYN residency program between 2002-2008 were reviewed.

— The relationship between USMLE scores (Step 1 and Step 2) taken before residency, were compared to their yearly scores on the CREOG exam.

- Scores on USMLE 1 and 2 represented pre-residency medical knowledge; USMLE 1 examined basic science knowledge, USMLE 2 examined clinical application of medical knowledge and skills.
- CREOG scores are a tool to predict success in acquiring medical knowledge during residency.

— The relationship between USMLE 1 and 2 scores and CREOG exam scores (overall and standardized) were studied in a longitudinal fashion.

— Data was stratified comparing standardized and overall CREOG scores throughout a resident's four years.

— Further correlations were made between USMLE scores (1 and 2) and yearly CREOG exam scores.

Results

Correlation between CREOG Exam Scores (Standard) and Postgraduate Year of Training

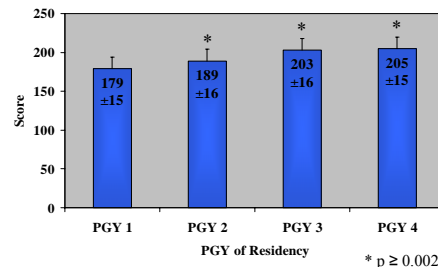
	PGY 1	PGY 2	PGY 3	PGY 4
PGY 1	—	$r = 0.88$ $p = 0.00$	—	—
PGY 2	—	—	$r = 0.73$ $p = 0.00$	—
PGY 3	—	—	—	$r = 0.76$ $p = 0.00$

Similar results were found between CREOG overall scores and PGY of training.

Correlation between USMLE scores and CREOG scores

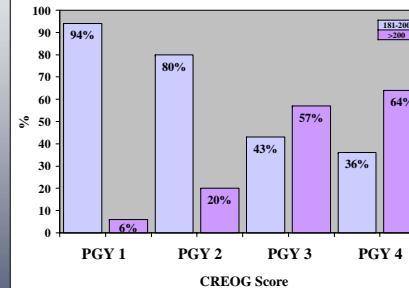
	USMLE 1	USMLE 2
CREOG PGY1	$r = 0.48$ $p = 0.07$	$r = 0.82$ $p = 0.002$
CREOG PGY2	$r = 0.61$ $p = 0.001$	$r = 0.68$ $p = 0.005$
CREOG PGY3	$r = 0.45$ $p = 0.01$	$r = 0.62$ $p = 0.008$
CREOG PGY4	$r = 0.58$ $p = 0.001$	$r = 0.75$ $p = 0.003$

Longitudinal Evaluation of Overall CREOG Scores



No difference was found in standard CREOG scores throughout residency.

Percent Improvement in CREOG Scores Over Years in Residency



Summary

— There was a significant increase in overall CREOG scores for each postgraduate year. However, standard CREOG scores did not improve throughout residency.

— Significant correlation was found between CREOG exam scores (standard and overall) between each PGY.

— An association was found between USMLE 1 and CREOG exam scores during PGY 1-4.

— There is a significant association between USMLE 2 scores and CREOG exam results during PGY 1-4.

Conclusions

From our data, it appears that USMLE 1 and 2 scores can be used to predict how prospective resident candidates will perform on the CREOG in-service exam.

Therefore, USMLE Step 1 and 2 scores may be used to evaluate a resident's ability to attain medical knowledge during residency, as tested by the CREOG exam.