DNA barcoding of sea turtle leeches (Ozobranchus spp.) in Florida coastal waters
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The etiological agent of Fibropapillomatosis (FP), a neoplastic disease originally identified only on green sea turtles (Chelonia mydas), is still unknown. Studies have shown an association between FP and the fibropapilloma-associated turtle herpesvirus (FPTHV), but not all turtles with FPTHV develop FP. Recently, high viral loads of FPTHV were detected in marine turtle leeches (Ozobranchus spp.) from a green sea turtle, but the study failed to identify the species of marine leech. Leeches may transmit or activate FPTHV but are impossible to identify at all life stages using taxonomic practices. In this study, character-based DNA barcoding using mitochondrial cytochrome c oxidase I (COI) gene as a molecular marker was employed successfully to identify both species of Ozobranchus spp. (Ozobranchus branchiatus and Ozobranchus margoi) at all stages of development from eight different sites in Florida (Daytona Beach to Key West). Genetic sequences for O. branchiatus and O. margoi were submitted to the National Center for Biotechnology Information GenBank with O. branchiatus added as a new species to the database. The spread of FP to other species of turtles combined with the discovery of a new turtle host for the O. branchiatus leech suggests the vector organism involvement behind FP maybe species specific. However, further sampling and genetic analyses must be conducted in order to confirm whether the separate haplotypes identified for O. branchiatus on a loggerhead are indeed haplotypes of the same species and not the discovery of cryptic specimens.

College of Nursing and Health

Perceptions and Opinions of Registered Nurses Who Separated from the Air Force
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Problem Statement: Nurses are separating from the Air Force (AF) well after their initial commitment is complete but before being eligible for retirement. This dramatically contributes to the nursing shortage. It is unclear what factors influence their decisions at that particular time, but if known, may be utilized for retention programs. Present data explore nursing job satisfaction and retention of civilian nurses and feelings of deprivation or burnout in military nurses (Ingersoll, Olsan, Drew-Cates, Devinney, & Davies, 2002; Lang, Pfister, & Siemens, 2010; Pearson, Fallacaro, & Pelligrini, 2009; Simon, Müller, & Hasselhorn, 2010; Skillman, Palazzo, Hart, & Keepnews, 2010; Tourangeau, Cummings, Cranley, Ferron, & Harvey, 2009); however there is a distinct gap in the literature. None of the studies examine the phenomenon of nurses separating from the AF and are unable to be generalized to this population due to the unique AF nature. This proposed study will serve to fill this gap.

Purpose: To examine what influences nurses’ decisions to separate from the AF before retirement eligibility. Research Question: What perceptions and opinions influence nurses’ decisions to separate from the AF before they are eligible to retire? Design: This qualitative study will consist of semi-structured interviews. Theoretical Framework: Glaser and Strauss’ Grounded Theory (1967) will guide this study’s constant comparison and emergent fit data analysis. Setting: A safe, mutually-agreed upon location appropriate for conversation.
Population: Nurses who have separated from