Perception of Memory and Depressive Symptoms in Adults

Diagnosed with Heart Failure

The purpose of my study is to determine if there is a relationship between perception of memory and depressive symptoms in heart failure patients 55 years and older. The design will be a quantitative secondary analysis. The original study, directed by Dr. Clark and Dr. McDougall, was conducted in the Central, Texas, metropolitan area. The original study’s aim was to examine the effects of the educational support intervention for older adults with heart failure. In the study, each adult had to complete the Mini-Mental Status Examination (MMSE) and three subsets of the Metamemory in Adulthood (MIA) Questionnaire. The three subsets included memory strategy, memory capacity, and memory change. Individuals of the study were also asked to complete a short form of the Geriatric Depression Scale (GDS). I will compute a total score for the GDS along with a total score for each of the 3 MIA subsets. I will compare the total GDS score to the 3 total MIA scores and the MMSE scores through a bivariate correlational analysis. I expect to find that the heart failure patients who scored lower on the memory scales will score higher on the Geriatric Depression Scale.