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5-2015

## Risk Perception of Developing Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus in Healthcare Related Majors at the University of Rhode Island

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### Recommended Citation

Aberra, Iman, "Risk Perception of Developing Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus in Healthcare Related Majors at the University of Rhode Island" (2015). *Senior Honors Projects*. Paper 418.  
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## Project Summary

The validated Risk Perception Survey in Developing Diabetes (RPS-DD) was used to assess risk perception in developing type 2 diabetes mellitus as well as measure basic understanding of the disease in healthcare focused majors at the University of Rhode Island (URI). Participants were asked if they were financially capable of purchasing fresh nutritious foods and then compared depending on their purchasing capability. The results show that there is no significant difference in risk perception between the two groups in terms of financial ability. Overall, participants had relatively mild risk and answered 68% of the questions correctly on the diabetes knowledge assessment. In the future, results may vary more in an urban population rather than a rural one such as URI. Significant impact due to limited finances may be seen to affect risk perception in developing diabetes in community colleges and other affordable healthcare education institutes where there is a diverse financial status amongst students.

## Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the URI Honors department for giving me the opportunity and challenging me to expand my research abilities. I would also like to thank my sponsors Drs. Lisa Cohen and Michelle Caetano Thomas for their patience, support, and encouragement. Finally, I thank the students at the University of Rhode Island for their participation in my survey, for my project would not be possible without their support.