

# Request #: 564 - PSY - Dissertation

## Exploration of predictors of prescription Misuse

Julie Murray [A02225515] - Doc Student (w/Scott DeBerard)

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### **Background**

We've spoken about this project several times a while ago. I am working on my dissertation proposal and I want to use random forest analyses to look at predictors of prescription misuse (two outcome variables- lifetime opioid and lifetime stimulant misuse).

### **Sample**

I collected a sample of 600+ college students nationally for my thesis and will use the same dataset for this project.

### **Hypothesis**

This is an exploratory project examining theoretical predictors of two different types of prescription misuse (opioid and stimulant) in college students.

### **Progress**

For my thesis I used logistic regression to look at theoretical predictors of opioid misuse in this sample. I want to expand on that in my diss by replicating my thesis instead using random forest analyses because more recent research has shown that it has better classification for imbalanced samples (like that of substance use/misuse) and by also looking at prescription stimulant misuse.

My dataset is currently in SPSS, but was previously cleaned for the purpose of my thesis.

### **Request**

At this point, I am working on my dissertation proposal methods section for this paper and want to check in about write up of the analyses and planning.

### **Timeline**

I am planning to propose by October.