Parents’ Perceptions on the Effectiveness of Their Child’s Therapeutic Horseback Riding Program
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Many studies have shown therapeutic horseback riding to be an effective form of therapy for people with physical and mental disorders such as gait asymmetries, cerebral palsy, or autism spectrum disorders etc. (Tseng, Chen, & Tam, 2013; Debuse, Gibb, & Chandler, 2009; Sherer, Killina, Long, & Martin 2012). There are a wide variety of treatments such as physical and occupational therapy, chiropractors, acupuncturists etc. for many of these different disorders and disabilities. Many different health professionals have opposing views on different forms of treatment. It is also important for the future of different fields to understand the users’ perspective. Therapeutic horseback riding seems to be less known than many of the other, more traditional, forms of therapy. Due to a main lack of knowledge regarding the field of therapeutic horseback riding, it is particularly important to understand the views of those who have been affected either directly or indirectly by therapeutic horseback riding. This study examined how parents view the effectiveness of their child’s therapeutic riding program. Parents from five farms were invited to complete a survey via survey monkey. Preliminary results will be presented.