Research Proposal

Population
For this research proposal, I will focus on adolescents with Cystic Fibrosis (CF)
Variable/Concern Addressed
The specific construct that will be addressed is socialization
Research Question
In CF adolescents, what are some ways that the child life therapist can assist socialization?
Methods
To recruit participants, I will put out a flyer in a hospital on the pulmonary floor for the nurses to give to CF patients of this age group that work with a child life therapist. The flyer will outline what objectives I am looking for and provide an email for them to ask any questions regarding the study. They could also relay these questions to the nurse to ask me. Since these are minors, I will choose to make sure the participants remain anonymous. If they choose to participate, I will have a questionnaire available to them to answer and return. I will use a Likert scale questionnaire that has 1-5 for each question. Some examples of questions might be “How in touch do you feel with your peers?” “Do you feel that your hospitalizations compromise your social needs?” “Do you have a support system outside of the hospital?” “Does your child life specialist help you feel less isolated when you are hospitalized?” I would total up the numbers given to each question for each participant and then categorize them as compromised, somewhat compromised, and not compromised. This will reveal data based on how much the child life specialist impacts CF adolescents’ social needs while in the hospital.
Anticipated Outcomes
I believe that this study would find that CF adolescents have compromised socialization category since they are often admitted for long periods of time. I do not think this will fully answer the research question. Longer term studies would need to be conducted, as well as a qualitative study that would provide stories and experiences on how the patients feel about their socialization.
Dissemination Plan
Those who need to hear the outcome of my study are nurses, child life specialists and families. I can reach this audience by staying connected with the nurses and child life specialists who are on the pulmonary floor. I would provide them with the data and provide solutions that could help their CF adolescents succeed. Providing nurses with this information could relay CF families with solutions to keep their children connected to their peers outside of the hospital. Based on the two options provided, it would be better to share the found information

at a conference rather than a journal. I believe a conference could be noticed by more nurses, families, and child life specialists.