

Medical Students' Perceptions of Physical Therapy: An Opportunity for Interprofessional Collaboration

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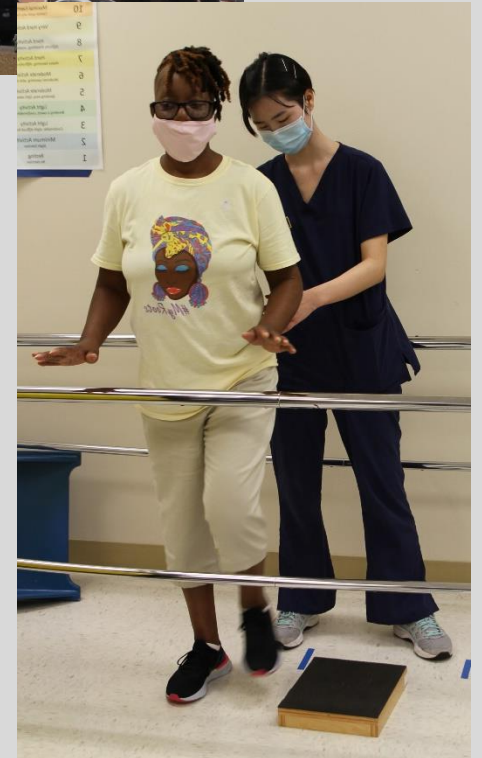
Introduction

New Partnership - Fall 2022

- ECU Physical Therapy Pro-Bono Student-Run Clinic (SRC)
- Greenville Community Shelter Clinic (GCSC)

Needs Assessment

- Planning meetings
- Focused interviews
- Survey creation



Background

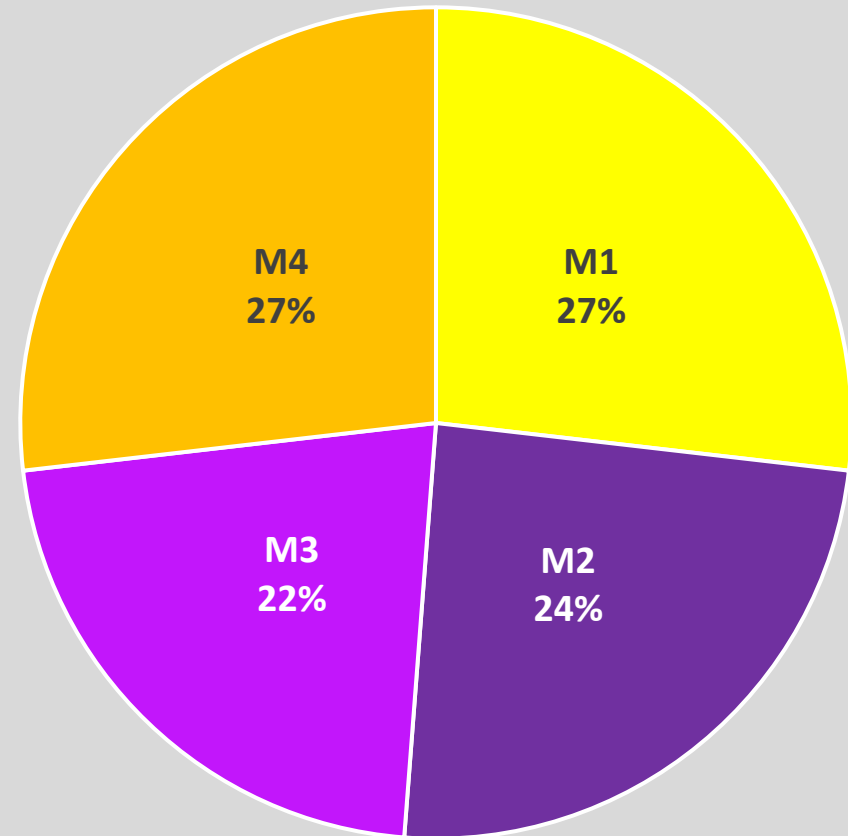
- “Interprofessional education (IPE) occurs when students from two or more professions learn about, from, and with each other to enable effective collaboration and improve health outcomes (WHO, 2010).”
- Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC) Four Core Competencies
 - ***Values/Ethics for Interprofessional Practice***
 - ***Roles/Responsibilities***
 - Interprofessional Communication
 - Teams and Teamwork
- There is a positive long-term impact of IPE experiences between physical therapy students and medical students (Sytsma et al. 2015).

Methods

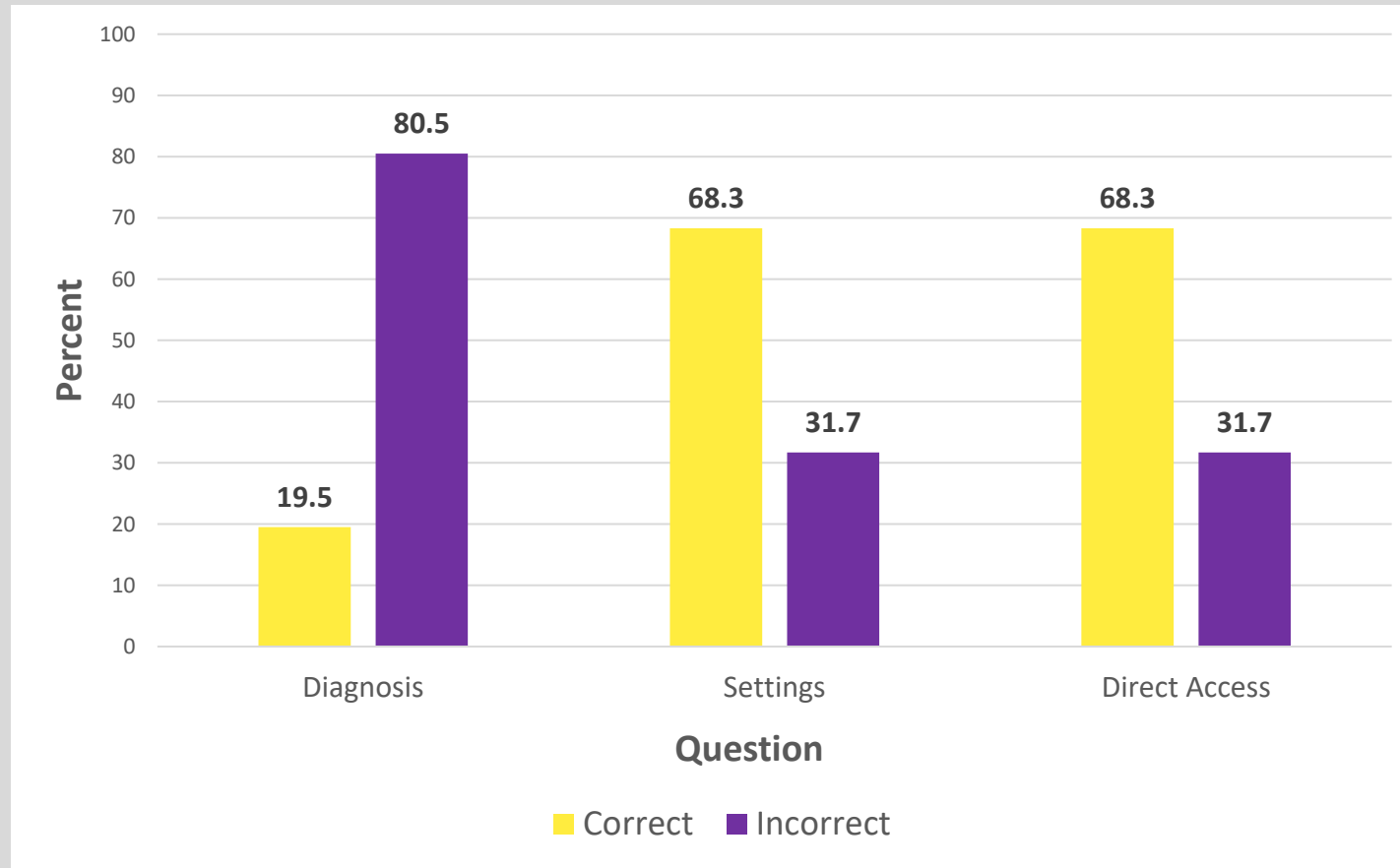
- 8 question mixed-methods Qualtrics survey
- Quantitative
 - Knowledge of PT
 - Confidence
 - BSOM IPE experience
- Qualitative
 - PT role and practice
- Survey link via GroupMe messaging platform
 - Class of 2023-2026

Results

- 41 responses
 - Response Rate: 11.9%
 - Quantitative completion rate:
 - Multiple choice questions: 100%
 - Open text box: 80.5%
 - Qualitative completion rate:
 - Roles/Practice: 78.0%
 - Knowledge Gaps: 17.1%



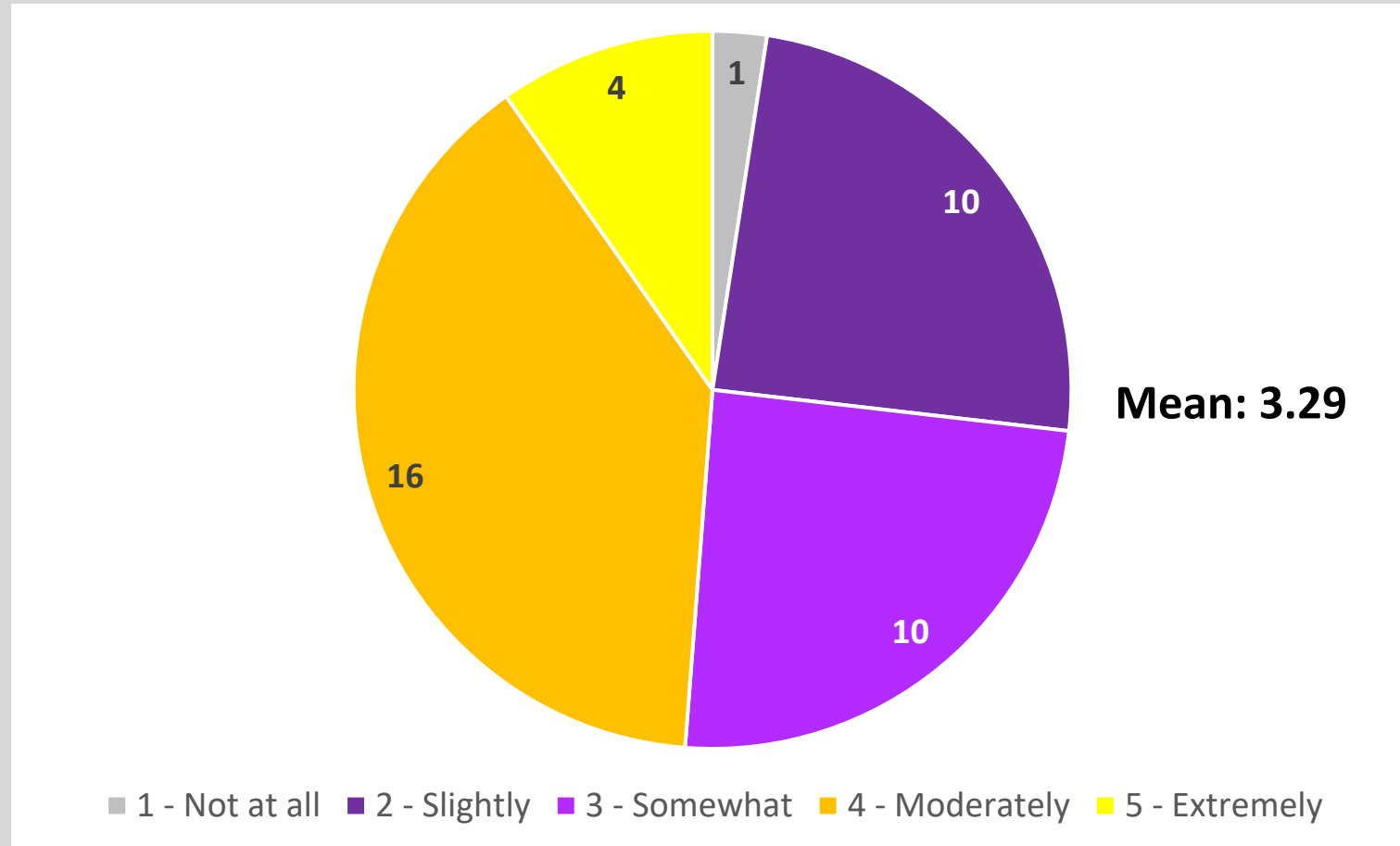
Knowledge



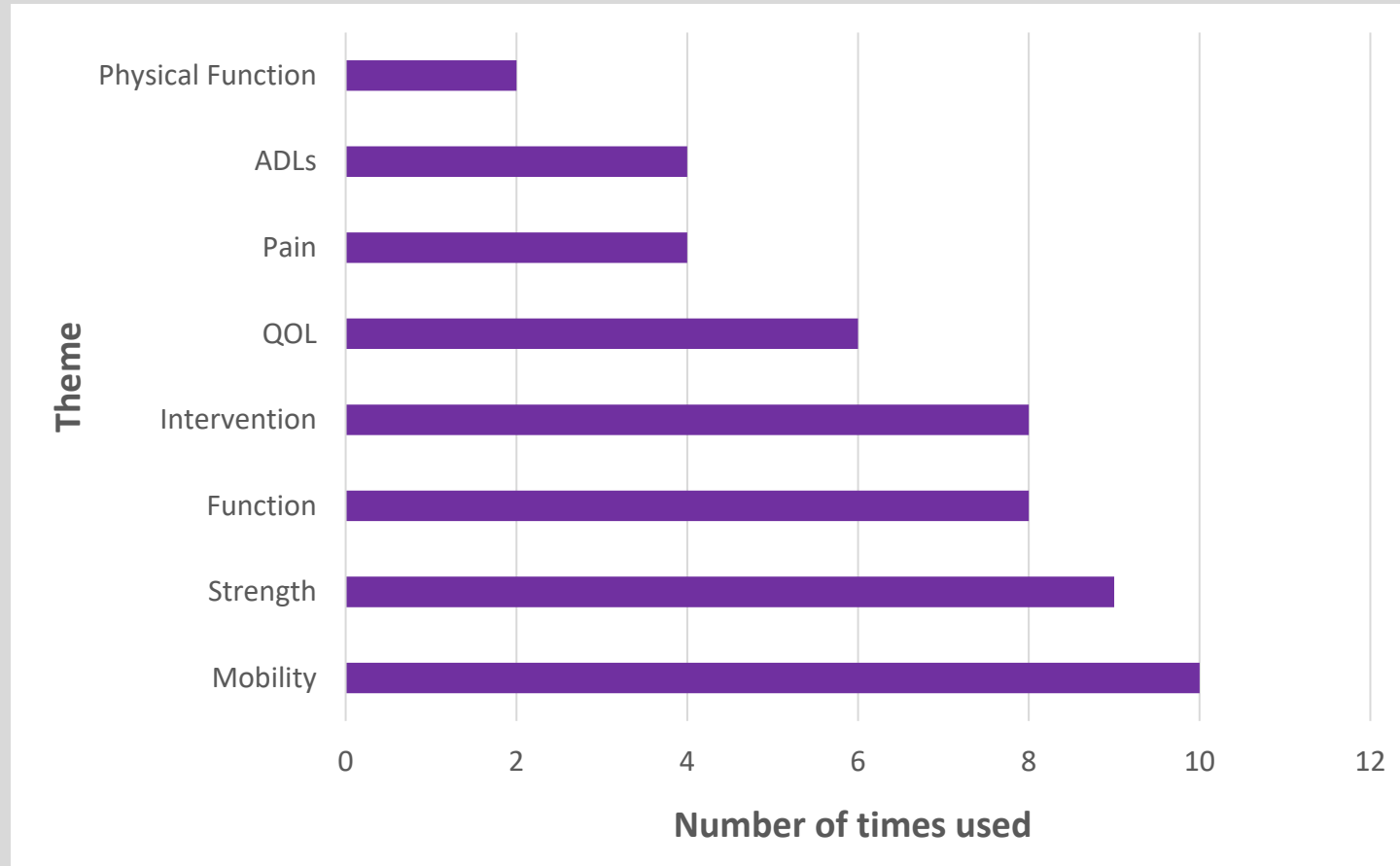
Incorrect:

- Diagnosis: wound care, wheelchair prescription
- Settings: emergency department, school system

Confidence: Appropriate Patients for Physical Therapy



Perception of Physical Therapy



“Intervention” included:

- Education
- Stretching
- Exercises
- Non-medical techniques
- Movement
- Activities
 - Body training
 - Specialized

Qualitative Responses: Knowledge Gaps

“Basic indications and order options for inpatient and outpatient PT”

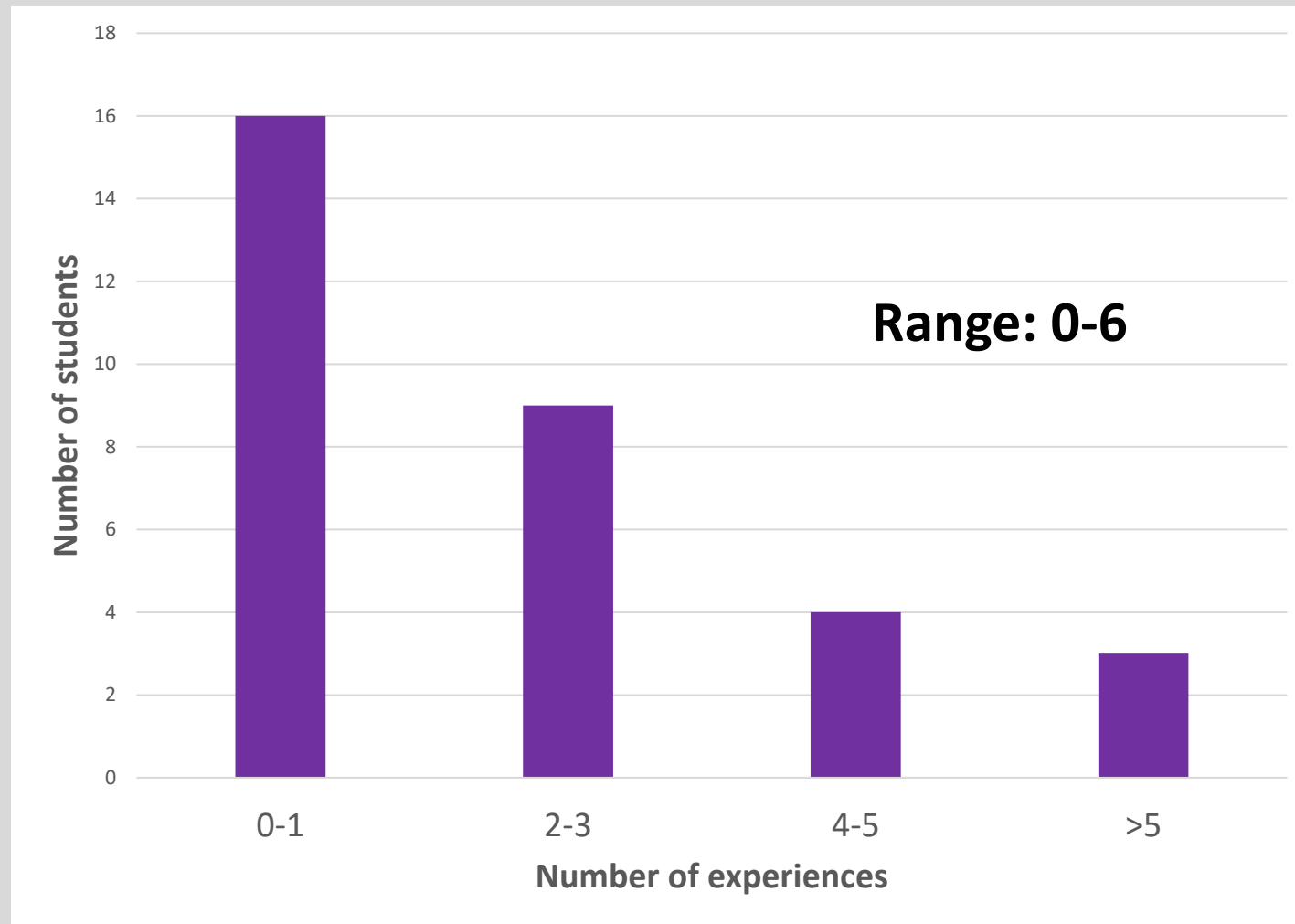
“I would love to know more about when it is best to refer to PT and what would be helpful for us to include in the referral (that would make the PT’s job easier)”

“Not really. Just need to know when it is appropriate to refer them!”

“Education on patients that benefit from PT eval inpatient vs outpatient; appropriate times for physicians to provide handouts (stretches, exercises etc) instead of a PT Referral”

“More information on ways physical therapists can work with physicians and various settings that physical therapy is recommended would be helpful.”

Reported IPE Experiences



Discussion

- BSOM students have a developing understanding of PT scope of practice
 - Mobility, Strength, Function, Interventions
- BSOM students value the role of PT
- BSOM and CAHS students would benefit from learning with and about each other
 - 19.5% and 68.3% correct on knowledge questions
 - Low confidence
 - Desire to learn more about referrals/collaboration
 - Low number of reported IPE events

Limitations

- Pilot survey
 - Low response rate
 - Open-ended questions
 - Low completion rate
 - Too broad
- Bias
- Institution-specific
- Lacked collaboration questions

Future Directions and Considerations

“I think that BSOM and AAMC would both benefit from teaching systems in adjunct with other schools. For example, during PI cases for MSK we should have PT students there as well. It would be a fun way to learn from one another.”

Acknowledgements

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