



RATIONALE/NEED & METHODS

RATIONALE/NEED: The purpose of this study was to assess how an innovative and accessible podcast series can be used during the first week of the OB/GYN clerkship to increase student knowledge and confidence in the clinical space. Specific clinical topics in obstetrics and gynecology are not thoroughly covered during the didactic years of medical school, leaving medical students unprepared for the clinical space. *1st Week on the Wards: OB/GYN* is a 7-episode podcast series that provides, in approximately ten minutes segments, a crash course on the basics of obstetrics. (Figure 1) Topics covered include Prenatal Care, HTN in Pregnancy, Gestational Diabetes, Preterm Labor/PPROM/PROM, L&D Triage, Labor and Delivery, and Postpartum Hemorrhage. The podcast is available on a variety of listening platforms including Spotify.

METHODS: Pre- and Post- surveys were administered via Google Forms and involved 3rd year medical students ranking their comfort using the Likert Scale (strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, agree, strongly agree). (Figure 2)

IMPACT/LESSONS LEARNED

In this pilot study, students reported that early introduction to an obstetrics and gynecology podcast significantly improved their confidence across a variety of topics and increased their ability to partake in the care of their patients. This novel educational tool was successful in preparing students to succeed during their clinical rotations.

The most significant limitation of this study is sample size. Of the cohort of students studied, only six chose to participate. To better assess the true efficacy of this podcast, a longitudinal study across cohorts should be completed. It is important to note that the timing of the clerkship during the M3 year could impact student confidence in the clinical space, making a longitudinal study even more important. Another limitation includes a lack of data from students who didn't participate. Understanding their baseline knowledge and reason for not participating would be helpful in determining ways to improve the podcast.

Based on student feedback, future steps would include creating show notes to accompany the podcast, expanding the podcast to include basic gynecologic topics, and recording bonus episodes on answering practice questions.

Figure 1. Podcast graphic



Figure 2. Method of studying podcast efficacy

RESULTS

Six students starting their obstetrics and gynecology clerkship listened to the podcast during their first week. At baseline, students on average reported that they did not feel well prepared for the OB/GYN clerkship, did not fully understand the process of labor and delivery, did not know the most important aspects of prenatal care, and did not feel confident in creating differential diagnoses. This was evidenced by an average score of "disagree" on the pre-survey. After listening to the podcast, students "agreed" or "strongly agreed" to feeling confident in the same domains, a statistically significant increase ($p < 0.001$). (Figure 3) Students also reported increased understanding of "day-to-day" concepts and felt the podcast decreased the "learning curve". (Figure 4)

"Great Podcast! I think the strength of this lies in its explanation of many of the day-to-day things that usually fly over my head. Having all of this in one resource that I can listen to/study in ~2 hours really helps cut the learning curb. Now I understand "Beta-complete", Mag checks", labor prevention, etc. Now I can learn MORE than the basics during my rotation."

"I wish these existed for every clerkship - thank you!!"

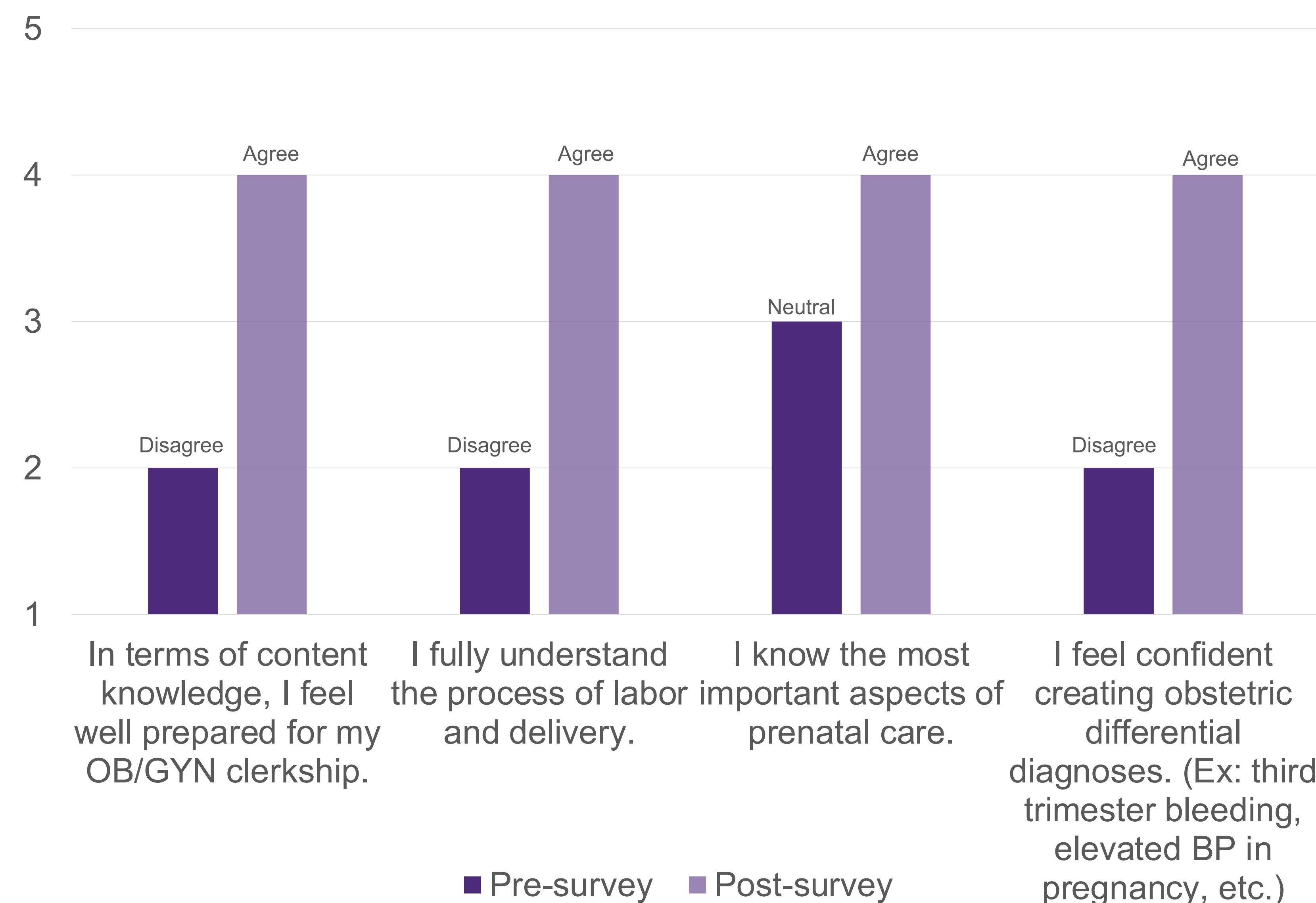


Figure 3. Average of student responses on pre- and post- surveys

Figure 4. Student Feedback

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