

## BACKGROUND

Health Systems Sciences (HSS) is steadily becoming integrated into medical school curricula across the nation. The Brody School of Medicine (BSOM) has a longitudinal curriculum on HSS, and each curriculum component incorporates different domains of HSS. In the OB-Gyn clerkship and pharmacology course, there are components that teach HSS concepts, which are denoted using an icon or “signposting”. The impetus behind this study is to ascertain whether the use of the signposting improved student recognition of HSS curricular integration in the clerkship.

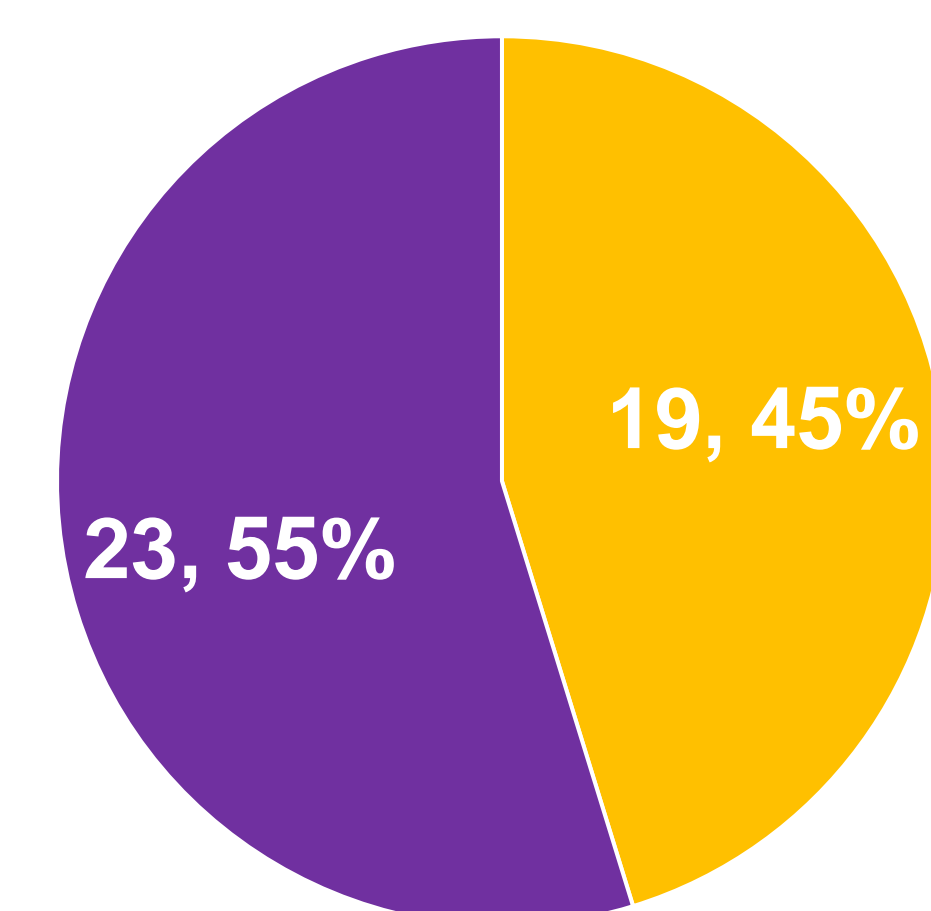
## METHODS

- Subjects who participated in this observational study were second year BSOM medical students who completed the Pharmacology course and third year BSOM medical students who had recently completed the OB-Gyn clerkship.
- Students completed a survey where they were presented an image of the signposting and were queried upon their memory of signposting use at the beginning of the pharmacology course, the end of the pharmacology course, and at the end of their OB-Gyn clerkship.
- The students answered background questions involving their experience with HSS.
- Students were sent this survey by the clerkship coordinator to eliminate any conflicts of interest and their responses were deidentified using Qualtrics.

## RESULTS

Data Point	OB Gyn Survey	Pharmacology Pre-Survey	Pharmacology Post-Survey
Respondents who completed the survey	42	67	25
Respondents who remember seeing the signposting prior to course/clerkship	45.2% (n=19)	22.0% (n=15)	24.0% (n=6)
Respondents who understood significance of signposting	57.1% (n=24)	21.0% (n=13)	(100%, n=25)
Respondents with prior HSS education	57.1% (n=24)	25.0% (n=17)	56.0% (n=14)

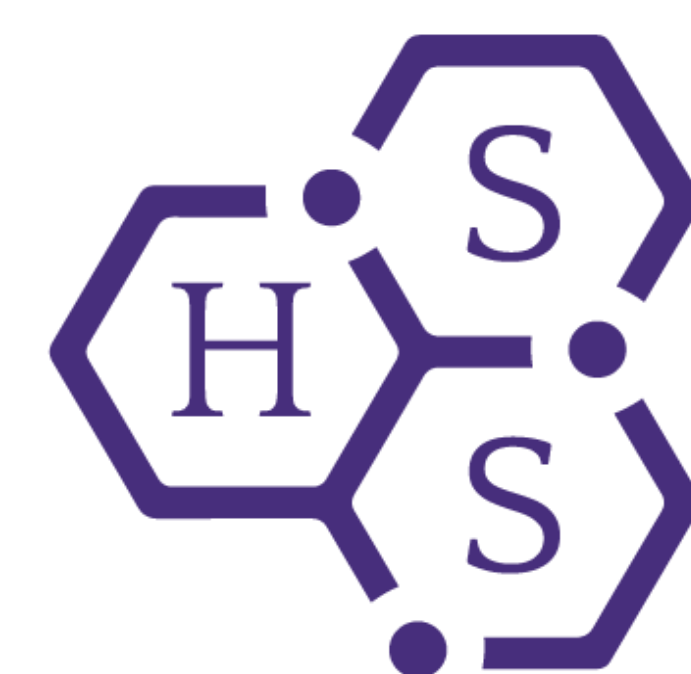
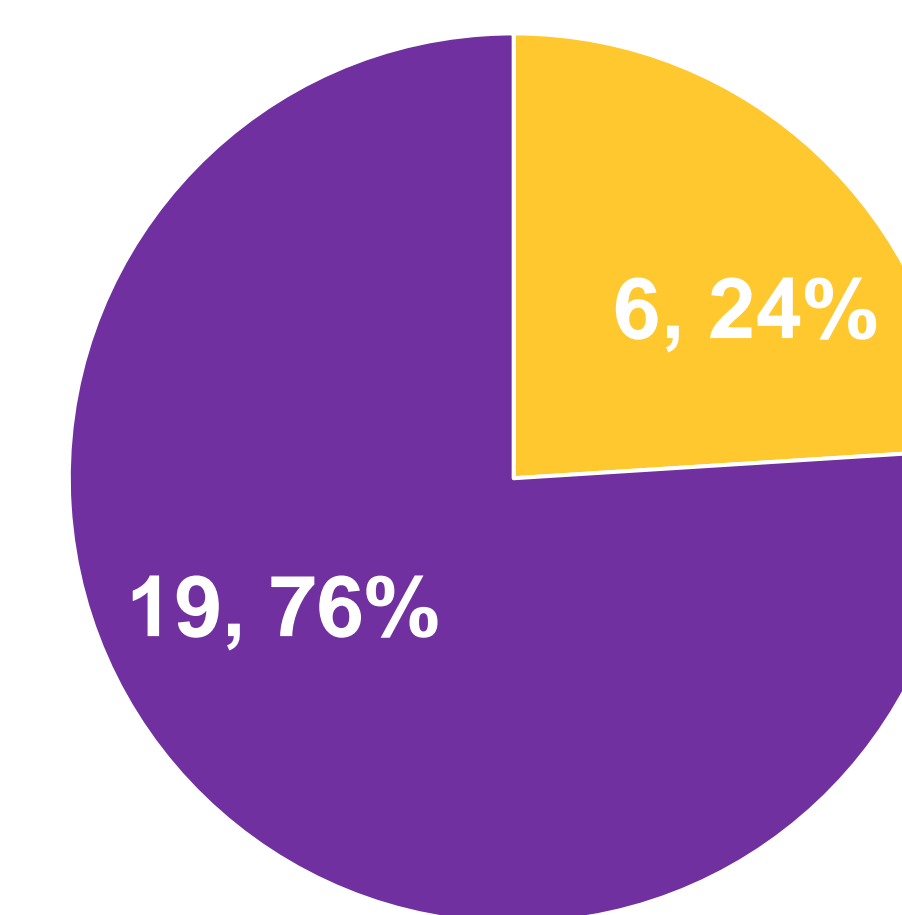
Number of Clinical Students who recall the Signposting



■ Number who did see it prior to the OB-Gyn Clerkship  
■ Number who did not see it prior to the OB-Gyn Clerkship

Number of Preclinical Students who Recall the Signposting

■ Number who did see it prior to the Pharm Thread  
■ Number who did not see it prior to the Pharm thread



HEALTH SYSTEMS SCIENCE



Figure 1. HSS Signpostings

## CONCLUSIONS

- Most respondents recall the signposting
- Of those who understood that the signposting stood for HSS components, most remembered specific curricular components where the signposting was used.
- Most students had remembered the use of the signposting in prior educational experiences implying that signposting does trigger a memory response.
- The pre- and post- pharm course surveys were conducted with separate cohorts (classes of 2025 and 2026) and OB-Gyn surveys were conducted with the 2025 cohort. Future surveys will be conducted with the the 2026 cohort to derive a longitudinal comparative analysis of HSS signposting integration in the overall curriculum.

## REFERENCES

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