

Background

- Pharmacists and student pharmacists can increase adherence and help reduce medication errors by providing patient counseling and education.
- The Southern Illinois University Edwardsville School of Pharmacy (SIUE SOP) is located along the border of Illinois and Missouri which has led to many students working in these two states during their time in school.
- Due to the differences in IL and MO pharmacy practice laws, students may not have the same number of patient counseling opportunities.
- This study aimed to compare student and community preceptor perceptions of counseling abilities among SIUE SOP students.

Methods

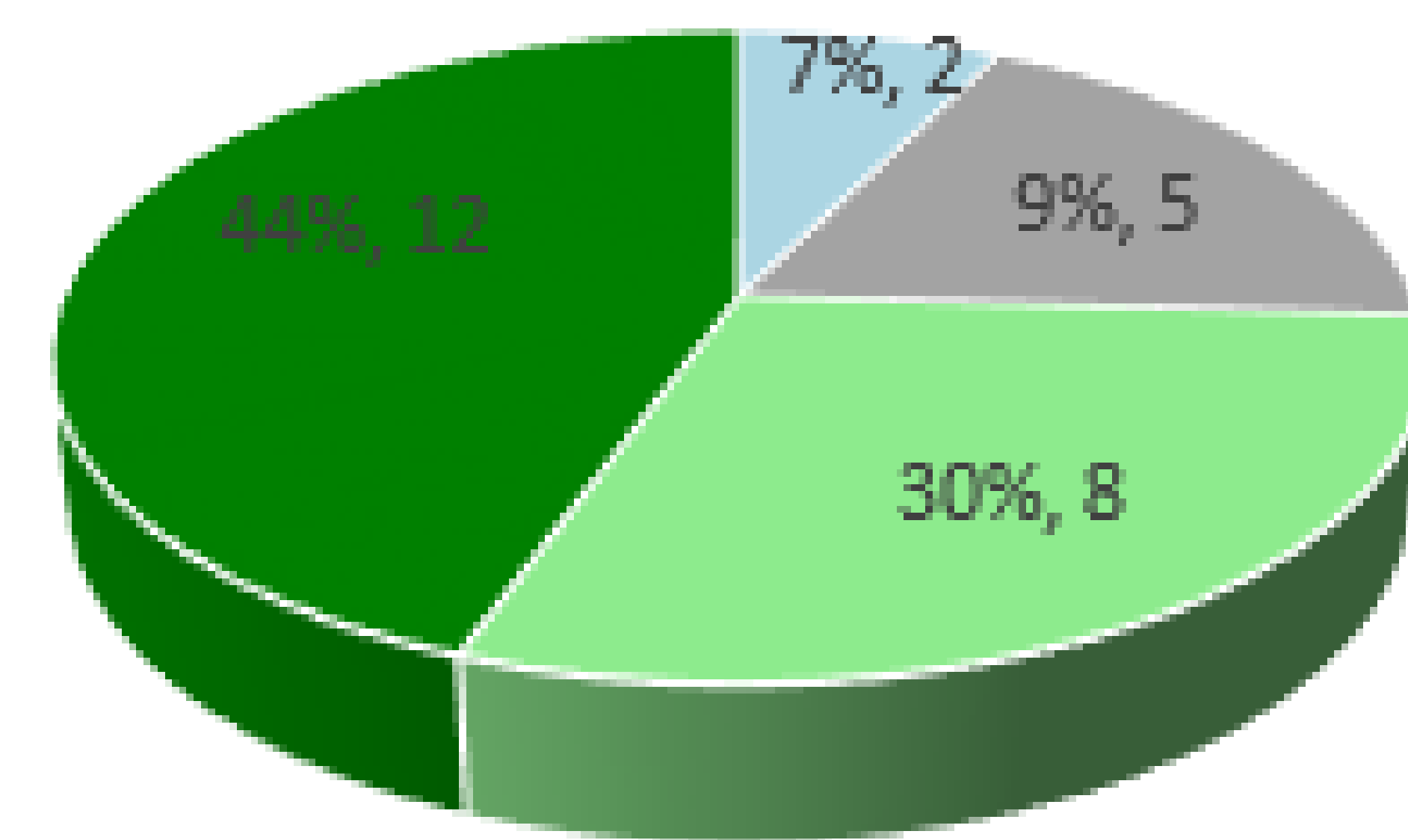
- Students in their fourth professional year received a 25-question survey regarding their perceptions of counseling related to their didactic coursework, work experience, and how mandatory state laws have affected them.
- Community pharmacy preceptors associated with SIUE SOP received a 24-question survey regarding their perceptions of student counseling abilities and how they feel the mandatory state laws may have or may not have an effect of patient counseling abilities.
- Both surveys were conducted through Qualtrics and included multiple choice, numerical values, Likert-scales, and opened-ended questions.
- Survey responses were then evaluated to provide descriptive, quantitative data.
- This study was approved by SIUE Investigational Review Board (IRB protocol #506).

Results

Student Survey Results

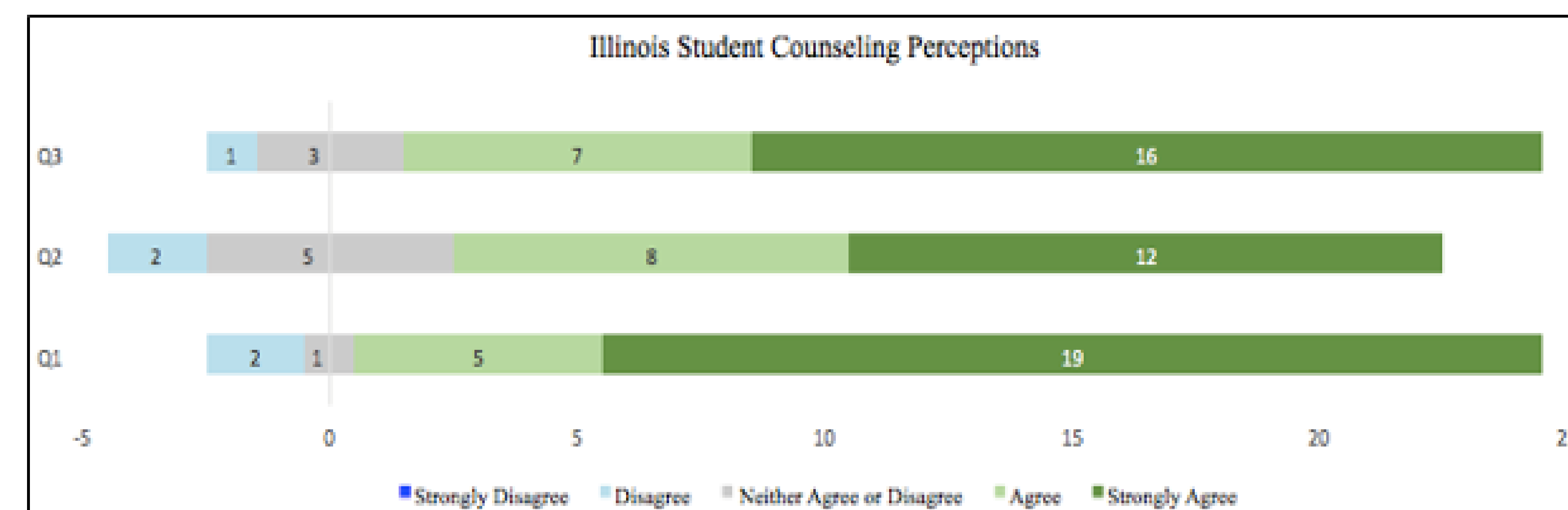
- Total: 50 out of 82 students
- 68% (34) students employed in IL – 22% (11) in MO
 - 79% (27/34) work in community setting in IL
 - 82% (9/11) work in community setting in IL
- 100% (50) students agreed/strongly agreed that providing patient counseling can help prevent medication errors
- 66% (33/50) agreed/strongly agreed that to better serve patients, patient counseling laws should be mandatory in all states

Working in Illinois has given me more practice providing patient counseling, and therefore I feel more comfortable doing so



(% of students, number of students)

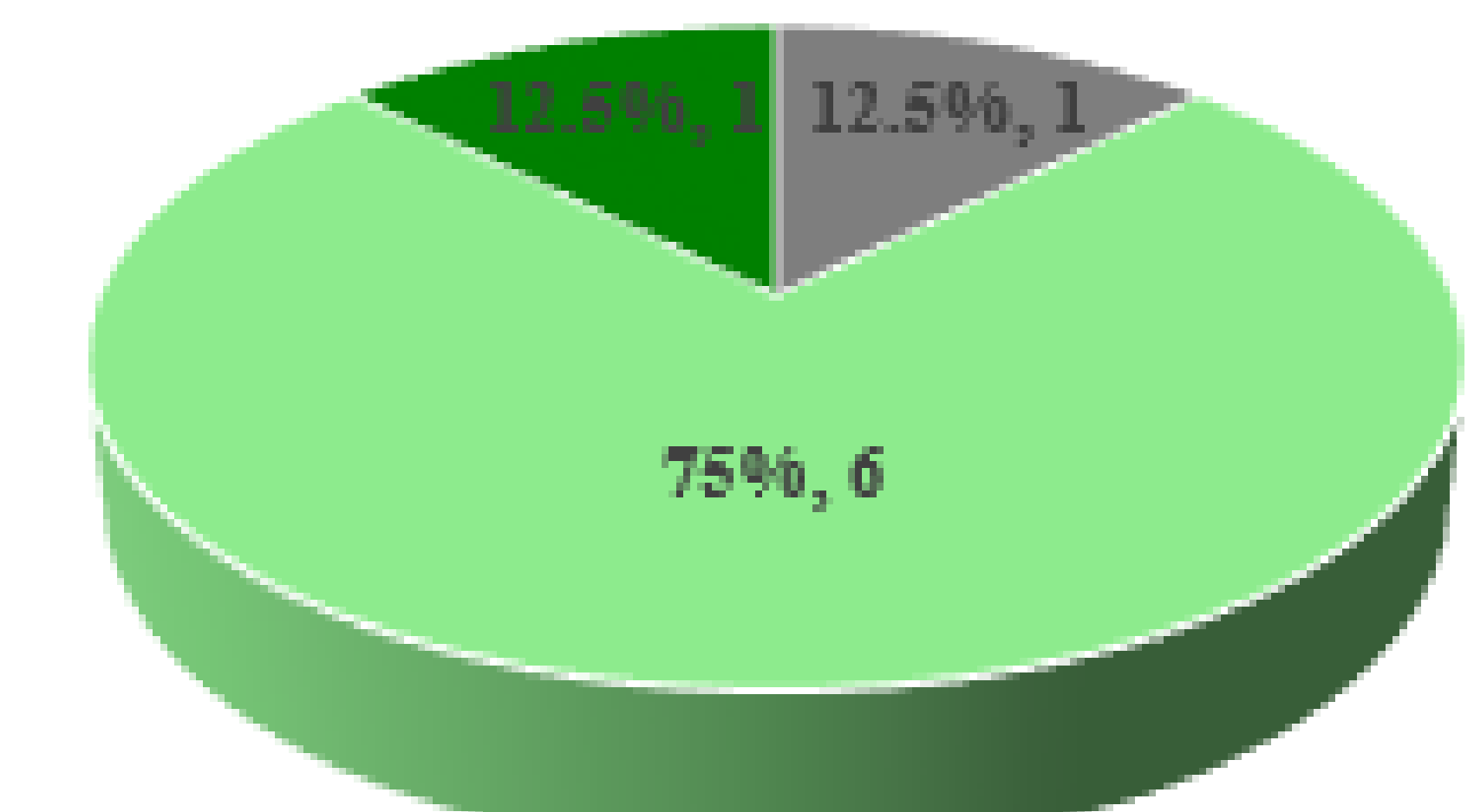
- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neither Agree or Disagree
- Agree
- Strongly Agree



(Q1: I believe the required patient counseling laws impact how often I provide patient counseling. Q2: Working in Illinois has given me more practice providing patient counseling, and therefore I feel more comfortable doing so. Q3: I am more prepared for my community APPE rotation and subsequent counseling opportunities because I frequently practice counseling at work.)

Results

I feel that working in Missouri and the lack of laws requiring patient counseling has impacted my comfort with and ability to provide patient counseling



(% of students, number of students)

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neither Agree or Disagree
- Agree
- Strongly Agree

Preceptor Survey Results

- Total: 4 out of 55 preceptors
- 75% agree/strongly agree that all states should have mandatory medication counseling laws
- All agreed that mandatory counseling laws based off the state they are employed in (IL/MO), impacts how often they have students provide patient counseling
- 50% (2/4) stated that in their experience that students either always or frequently display confidence while counseling patients in their pharmacy.

Table 2: Preceptor Survey: Rubric Responses

Preceptor Survey: Student use of patient counseling rubric				
	Participant 1	Participant 2	Participant 3	Participant 4
SIUE SOP students introduce themselves to patients by name and identify themselves as the student pharmacist.	Sometimes	Rarely	Frequently	Sometimes
SIUE SOP students ask patients the open-ended question "What did the doctor tell you this medication was for?" then will provide medication name and indication.	Frequently	Rarely	Frequently	Frequently

Conclusion

- This study demonstrates the importance of ensuring students are exposed to as much practice as possible before becoming licensed pharmacists and that states like Illinois with strict counseling laws may be the key to providing students with more of these types of opportunities.