

Assessing the Impact of Immunization Training in Preparing Pharmacy Students for Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPEs)

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Background

- Pharmacists, student pharmacists and technicians play a crucial role in the delivery of immunizations
- The APhA Pharmacy-Based Immunization Delivery Certificate Training does not have an expiration date, allowing pharmacy students to potentially not utilize this training for years
- It is undetermined if student pharmacists feel adequately prepared to administer or educate about vaccinations to patients after a single training.

Objective

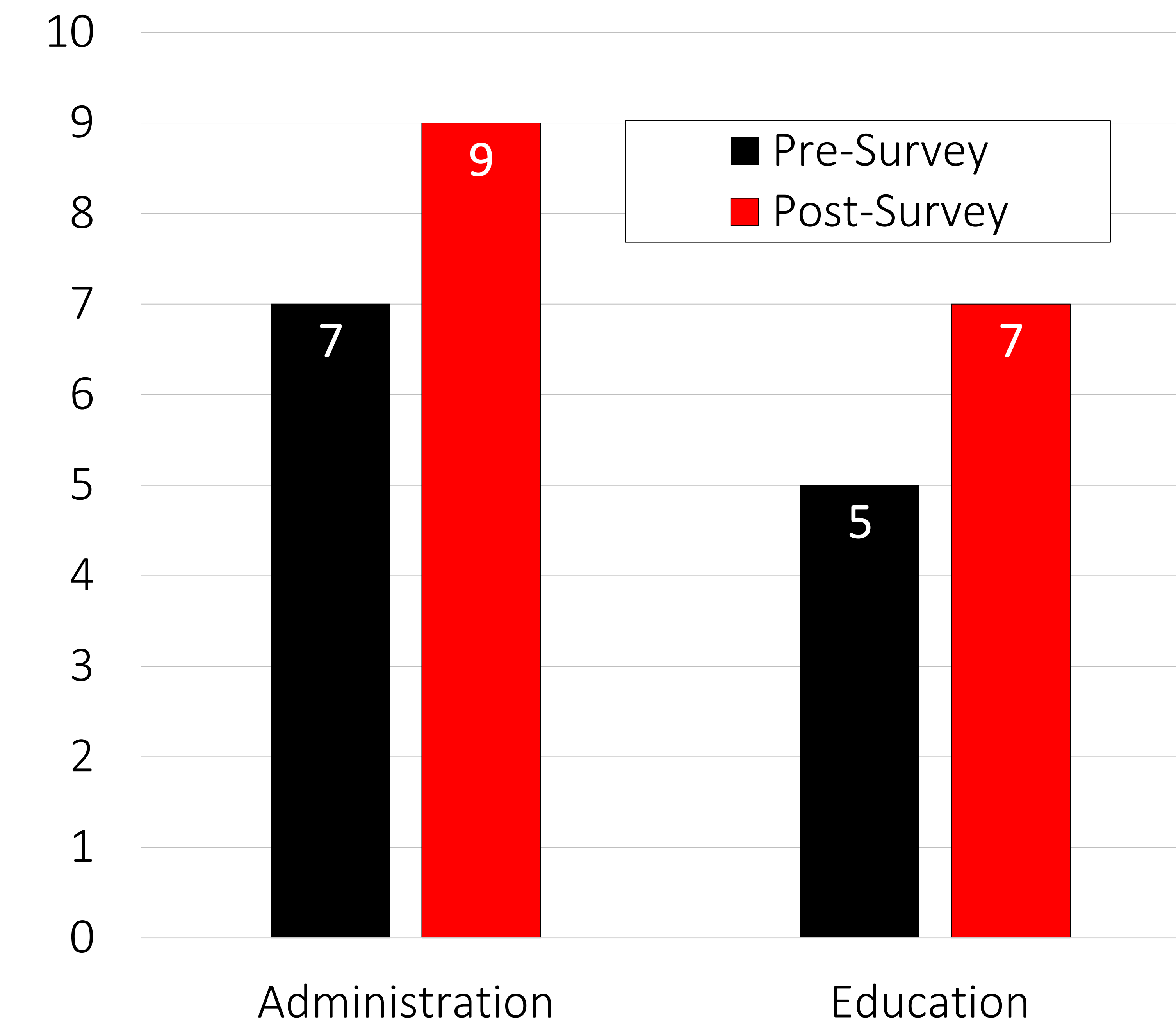
To assess the preparedness of SIUe School of Pharmacy, third-year pharmacy students, to give immunizations and educate patients, after the one-time APhA Immunization Training.

Methods

- Study Design: Retrospective, observational, cross-sectional survey study
- Survey Design: Questionnaire assessing confidence based off a single immunization training, as well as pharmacy work experience, experiential education and knowledge assessment.
- Study Population: Current pharmacy students in their third professional year at SIUe School of Pharmacy
- Surveys were administered electronically via Qualtrics
- A pre-survey was distributed to obtain a baseline knowledge of all students surveyed
- Following the pre-survey, students participated in intersession learning activities to enhance their knowledge regarding immunizations and practiced administering IM and subcutaneous injections to each other
- After completion of these activities, students completed a post-survey to evaluate their perceptions of how the participation in this spring intersession activity affected their knowledge and confidence surrounding knowledge of immunizations and administration.

Results

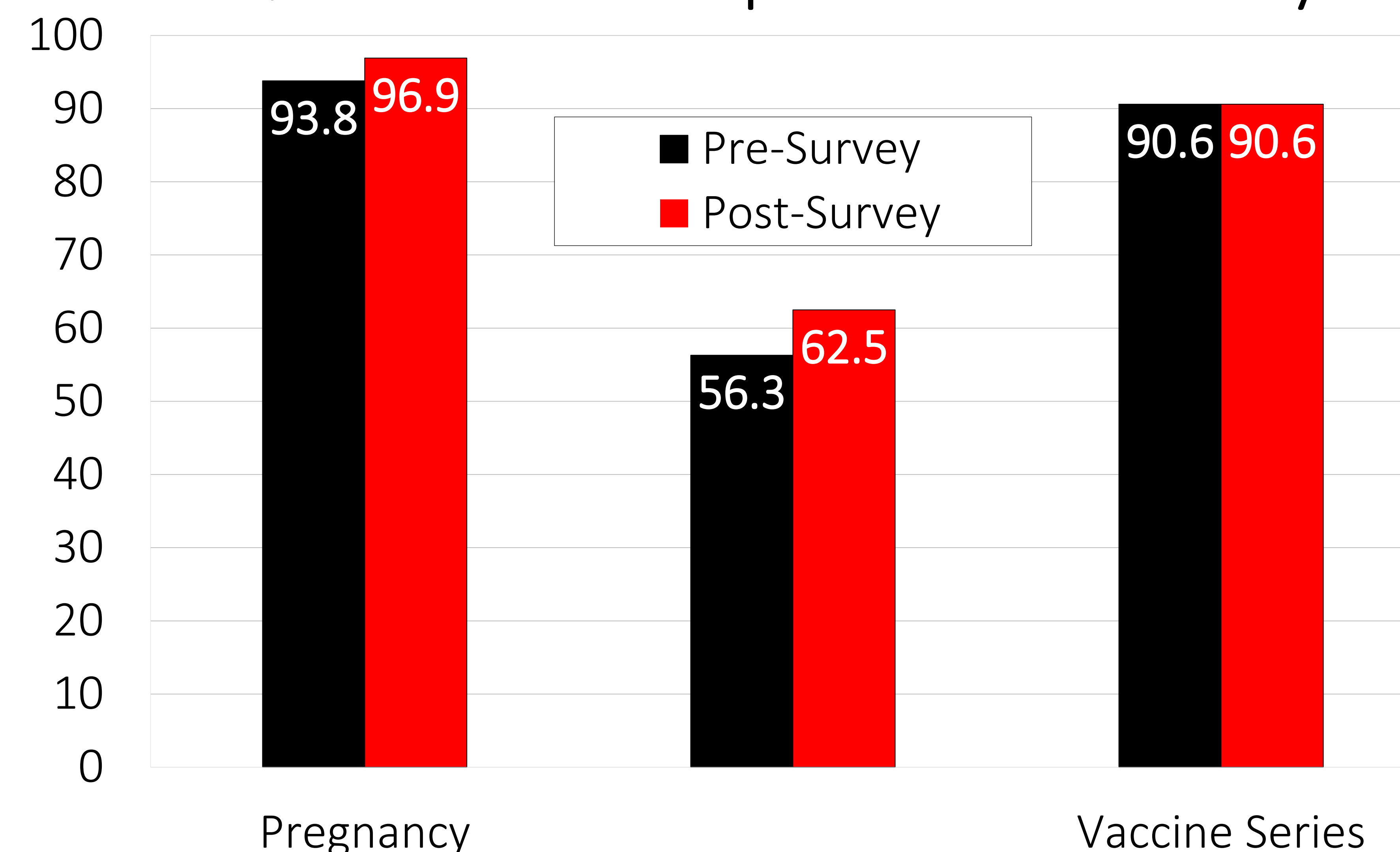
Student Vaccination Preparedness



Results

- Overall, this showed a positive impact on confidence levels following the intersession immunization activities with current 3rd year pharmacy students.
- Although 75% of participants work in a community setting, survey results indicate that 100% of respondents who either solely work in a hospital setting, or do not work at all, stressed the need and benefit for additional practice.
- 88% of participants indicated the additional vaccination administration skills training was helpful in preparing for APPE rotations.
- 94% of participants indicated the vaccination education activity was helpful in preparing for APPE rotations.

% of Clinical Case Topics Answered Correctly



Conclusion

The study shows that implementing an immunization activity for third year students increased student preparedness for APPEs and practice. We conclude that an educational opportunity on vaccine education and administration should be implemented in the pharmacy curriculum to help prepare students for APPE rotations and upon graduation. These results will be shared with faculty to enhance the curriculum, while also improving student confidence and preparedness in providing quality care to patients.