Comparing the Impact of an Infectious Disease Elective on the Confidence of Students and Alumni

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Background
- Pharmacists play an integral role in the treatment of infectious diseases and the prevention of antimicrobial resistance
- Infectious disease remains a challenging topic for students to grasp prior to the start of advanced pharmacy practice experiences (APPEs)

Methods (cont.)
Survey:
- Demographic questions summarized using descriptive statistics
- Participants asked to indicate their level of confidence in treating five common infectious diseases using a five-point Likert scale

Statistical Analysis:
- Chi-square analysis used to determine if a difference in confidence existed between those who did and did not take the infectious disease elective

Results (cont.)
Table 1. Chi-Square Analysis Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Infection</th>
<th>Chi-square Statistic</th>
<th>Degree of Freedom</th>
<th>P-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UTI</td>
<td>8.908</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. difficile</td>
<td>7.431</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cellulitis</td>
<td>5.327</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Otitis Media</td>
<td>0.546</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAP</td>
<td>5.887</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Limitations:
- Unequal distribution of students and alumni
- Subjective reporting only measured outcome
- Differences in work and APPE experience
- Lack of knowledge-based assessment component

Conclusions and References
Increased exposure to infectious disease concepts by means of a didactic elective supports the confidence of students and alumni in treating four common infectious diseases.

References: