

ABSTRACT

Introduction:

In 2018, the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) released a strategic plan in response to the declining rates of pharmacy school applicants since 2013. The first goal within this plan targets expanding national pharmacy pipeline development programs. A similar program to the ones described was created by three PharmD candidates and one faculty member at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUe) School of Pharmacy. The goal of this study is to obtain quality assurance based on the pilot implementation of the program.

Methods

This program was offered to undergraduate students, 18-21 years old interested in pharmacy at SIUe. The program consisted of six, 1.5-hour modules that were held in person or online. The topics of the modules focused on building skills to aid in professionalism and foundational topics that impact pharmacy. To assess students, there was an overall program survey and pre and post modules surveys to assess how well the modules met the objectives and students' overall opinion of the program.

Results

When looking at the individual module surveys, more students answered favorably on the post survey as compared to the pre-survey. This can be seen in both the knowledge-based questions and the Likert scale comfort questions. When looking at the overall post-survey, 77% of students answered that they were extremely satisfied with the program and 85% said that they were extremely likely to recommend this program to someone.

Conclusion

Overall, there were very high rates of satisfaction with the program that can be seen through survey results. While we can see a trend towards more favorable answers in the post survey as compared to the pre survey, the sample size is not large enough to make full conclusions. It is recommended that the program be offered again, with multiple offerings and a larger group, to be able to collect more data and make conclusions.