

Development of a Summer Bridge Program in a Professional Pharmacy Program

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BACKGROUND

- The purpose of this pilot project was to develop a co-curricular program for enhancing recall of critical and fundamental concepts through the summer months to bridge the gap between didactic courses of the 1st and 2nd professional pharmacy year as well as the 2nd and 3rd professional year.
- The desired outcomes of the program were to:
 - Review foundational knowledge
 - Introduce new topics to jump start student's learning for upcoming course
 - Ease the transition to a new semester by providing learning tools prior to the start of the first course

DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM

Timeline of the Summer Bridge Program:



Key Points of the Program:

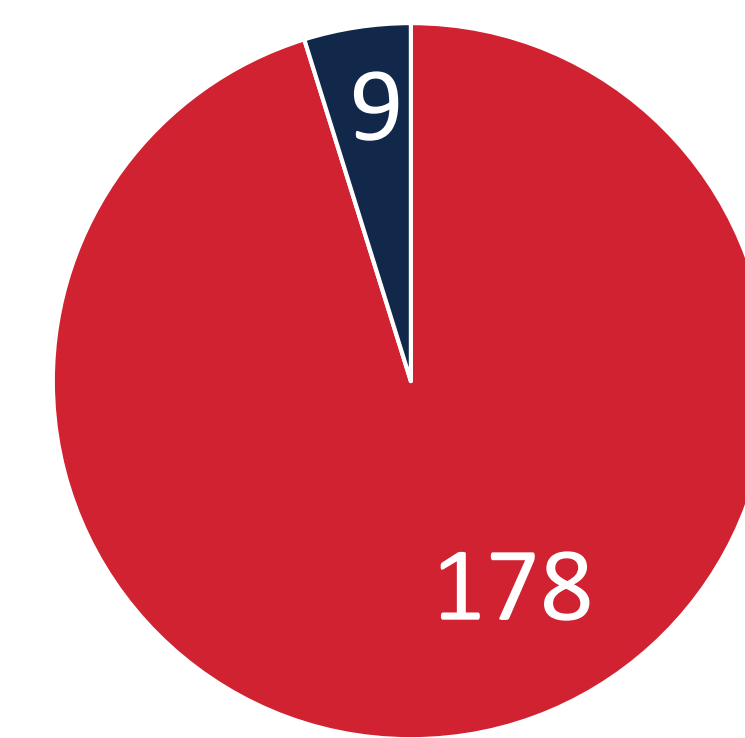
- Students received no incentive for participation in the program
- Students chose their level of involvement in the program (e.g., could use all, some, or none of the activities and content provided)
- Activities remained open after the respective courses started for students to view
- Each activity was designed to require 5-10 minutes to review and was accessible on a mobile device

Methods for Receiving Feedback from Students Regarding the Program:

- Students were asked to complete an optional, anonymous Qualtrics questionnaire distributed via email at the beginning and end of the respective course to determine student experiences of the Summer Bridge Program
- The pre-course questionnaire was 14-items and the post-course questionnaire was 9-items

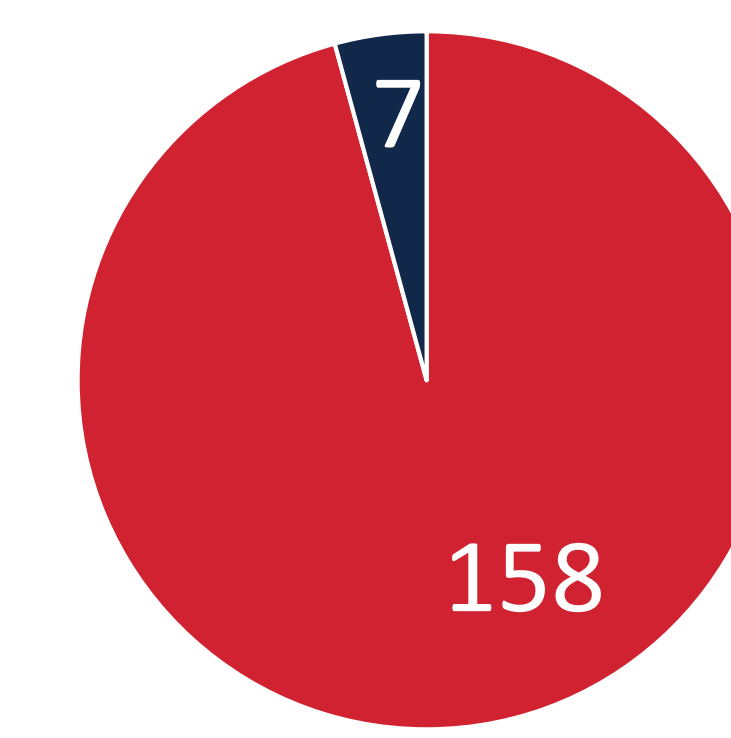
STUDENT PARTICIPATION

2022-2023



■ Joined GroupMe
 ■ Did not Join Group Me

2023-2024



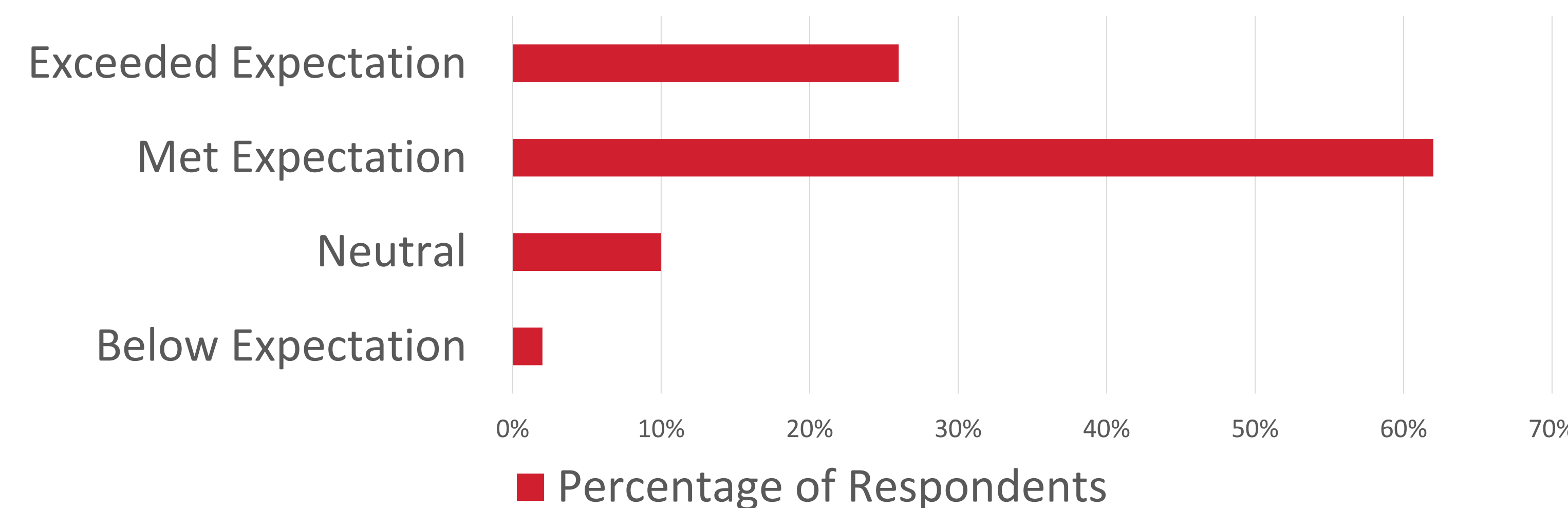
■ Joined GroupMe
 ■ Did not Join Group Me

STUDENT FEEDBACK

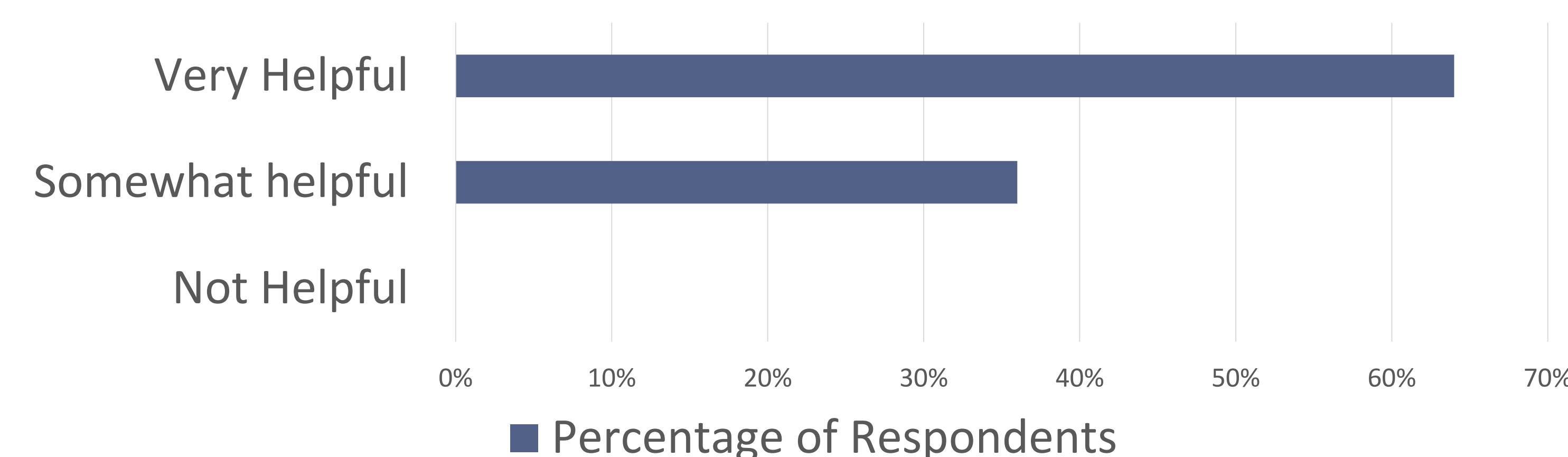
A total of 58 students completed the pre-course questionnaire and 30 students completed the post-course questionnaire.

- 85% of respondents who signed up for the GroupMe accessed the resources
- Students preferred 7Taps and Quizlets to Youtube videos or website links

Quality of Summer Bridge Program



Usefulness of Summer Bridge Program in Course Preparation



100% of students stated they would recommend the Summer Bridge Program to other students and requested expansion to other courses.

CONCLUSIONS

- Students were receptive to participating in a voluntary program outside of the traditional academic calendar to prepare for upcoming courses.
- 100% of students who responded to the survey stated it was beneficial.
- It is difficult to assess the impact the Summer Bridge Program had on the students' final course grade. This is due to it being voluntary and variation in the individual level of participation from student to student.
- Antidotal feedback from students suggested that these resources assisted in improving basic knowledge recall and reducing anxiety.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Based on student feedback and experiences, some of the planned improvements include:

- Starting the program earlier to remove the compacted, module-like feel of the program
- Adding other platforms to give students more options as some prefer certain platforms over others
- Incorporating more educational, yet entertaining, videos to better engage visual and auditory learners
- Incorporating more PPCP-related information and activities to encourage the students to think about therapeutics with a patient-centered mindset
- Increasing interaction on the GroupMe app beyond its use as a simple communication tool
- Expanding to include information for other modules

DISCLOSURES

The authors have nothing to disclose concerning possible financial or personal relationships with commercial entities that may have a direct or indirect interest in the subject matter of this presentation.