# **Evaluating Health Professional Student Perspectives of an Interprofessional Education (IPE) Event on Health Equity**

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### Background

- Interprofessional education is when students from 2+ professions learn about, from, and with each other to enable effective collaboration and improve health outcomes (WHO 2010)
- Interprofessional practice and education focuses on improved health equity as one of the five outcomes within the IPE Quintuple Aim, resulting from interprofessional competency

## Objective

 To evaluate health professional student perspectives on an IPE event focusing on health equity

#### Methods

MCPHS students from various health care programs attended a health-equity focused IPE event involving a Color of Care documentary produced by the Smithsonian Channel

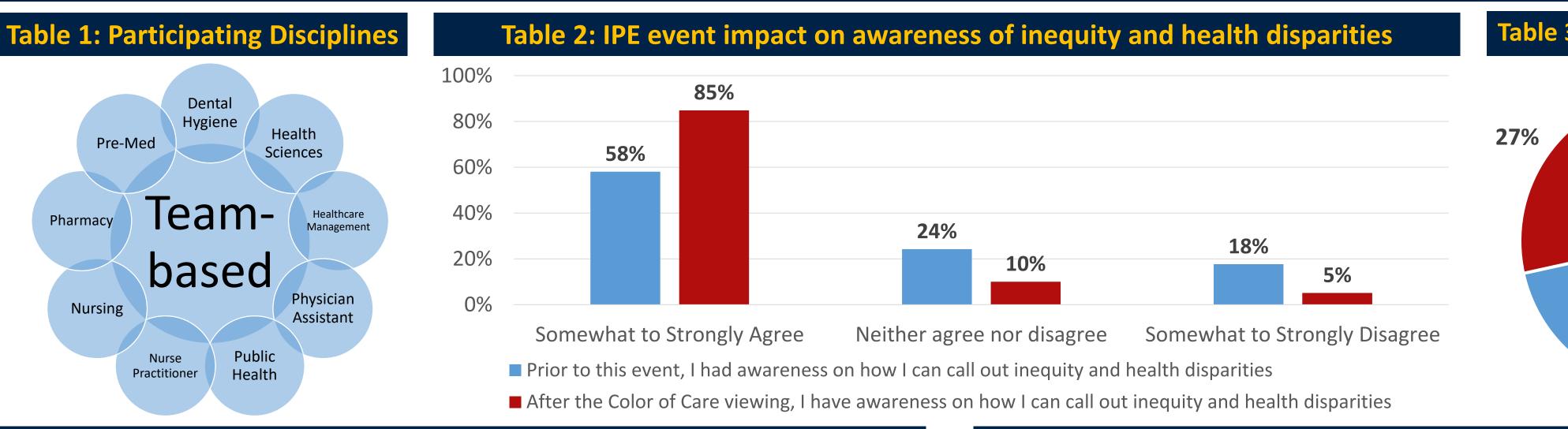
In total, 9 sessions from
January 2023 to February
2024 were facilitated in
formats including in-person,
online, and hybrid offerings
to allow all students to
participate

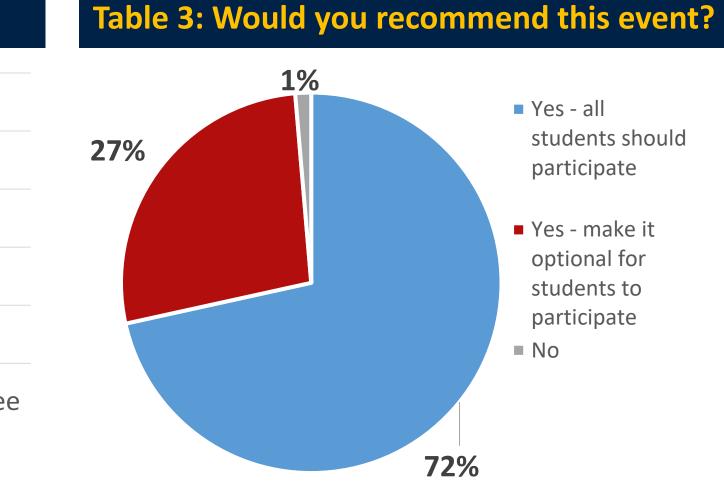
Small group discussions related to health equity transpired after the documentary viewing, with ~4-7 students per group

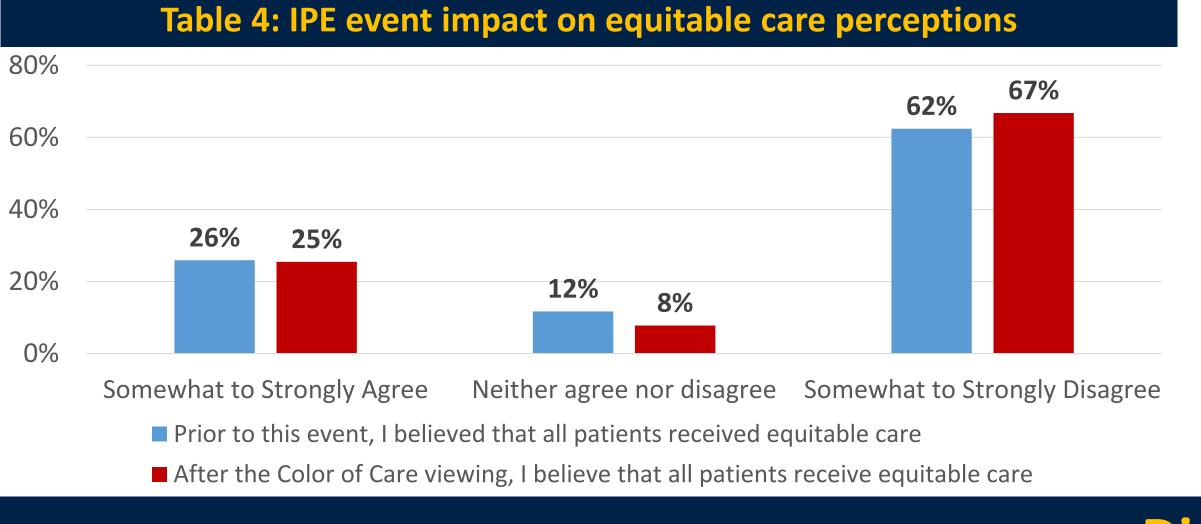
Using Qualtrics, students completed a post-event survey. Paired t-test and descriptive analysis were utilize to evaluate survey responses

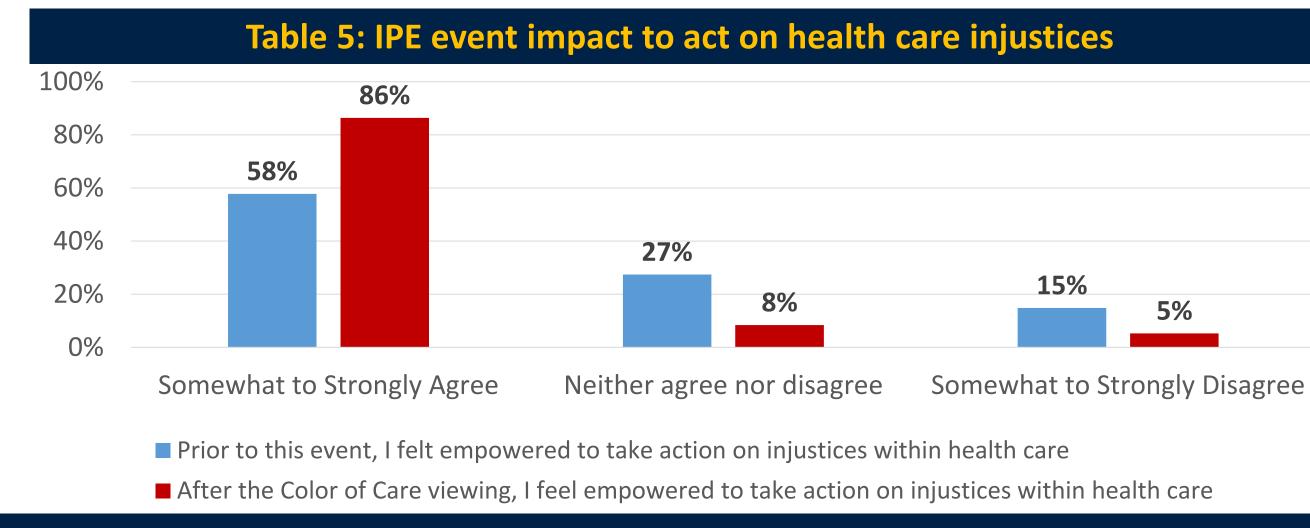
Questions included event takeaways, student definition of equity, whether the event is recommended to future learners, and pre/post self-reflection utilizing a 5-point Likert-scale: strongly disagree=1, somewhat disagree=2, neither agree nor disagree =3, somewhat agree=4, strongly agree=5

#### Results









#### Discussion

- Over a period of 13 months, 688 students completed the post-event survey who attended the IPE event
- Most students (98.7%, n=659) recommended the event to other students, with 72% (n=478) recommending required attendance, and 27% (n=181) recommending optional attendance
- After participation, students were significantly more likely to 1) feel empowered to take action on injustices within healthcare and 2) be aware on how to call out inequity and health disparities (p<0.0001 for both)
- Students agreed this event allowed them to actively listen and encourage ideas and opinions of others and allowed them to identify ways to problem-solve and discuss strategies to improve access to healthcare, 4.42/5 and 4.32/5 on a 5-point scale, respectively

## Implications/ Conclusion

- The Boston IPE Working Group within the MCPHS Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education aim to continue the offering of this event based on positive results
- This event will serve as an introductory IPE event related to health equity with intentions to 1) help students gain a foundational understanding of health disparities and 2) empower them to work in an interprofessional manner on improving access to care