

Utilizing Immersive and Skills-Focused Rotations to Maximize Learning Within the IPPE Curriculum



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Key Points

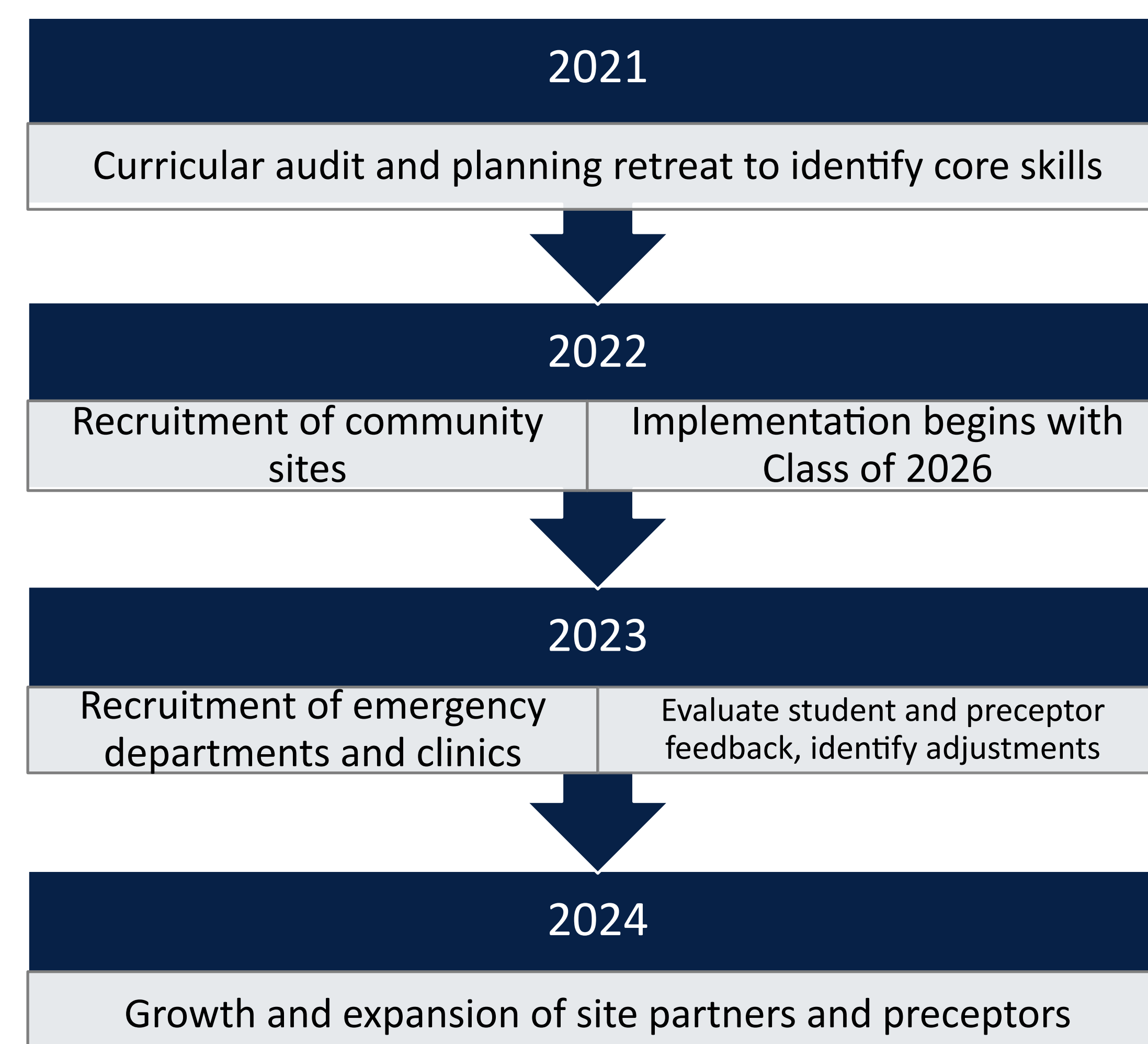
- Introducing students to a variety of practice sites early and consistently in the curriculum improves awareness
- Scaffolding a mix of short, targeted IPPE rotations with longer immersive IPPE experiences may offer enhanced competence in entry level practice skills
- Identification and focus on core skills allows for integration with other didactic curricular elements
- The innovative use of non-pharmacists to facilitate some learning experiences has had a positive impact on success of implementation and preceptor workload

Objective

To describe an innovative Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience (IPPE) curriculum design with a focus on development of core pharmacy practice skills

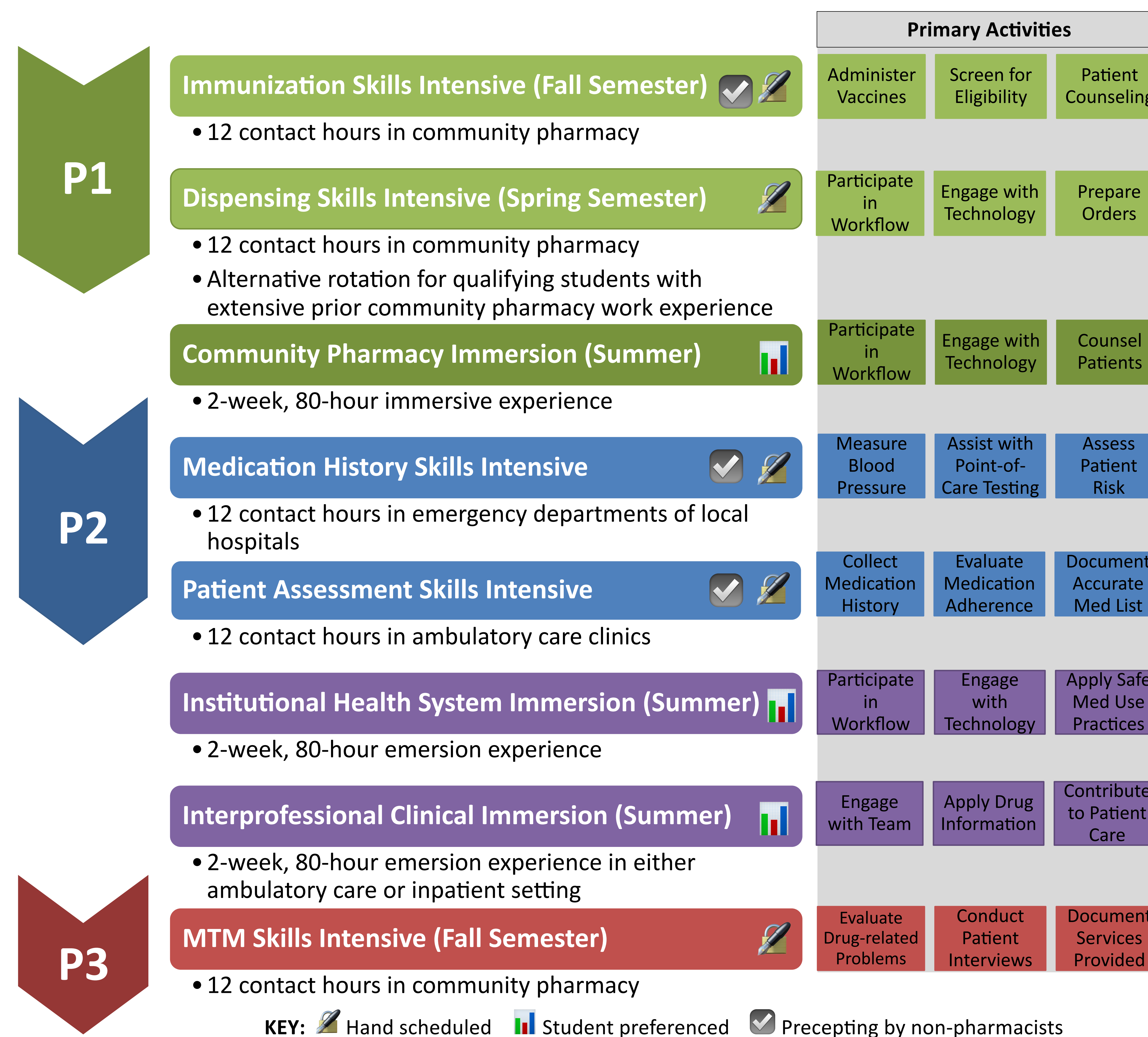
Methods

Figure 1. IPPE Curriculum Revision Timeline



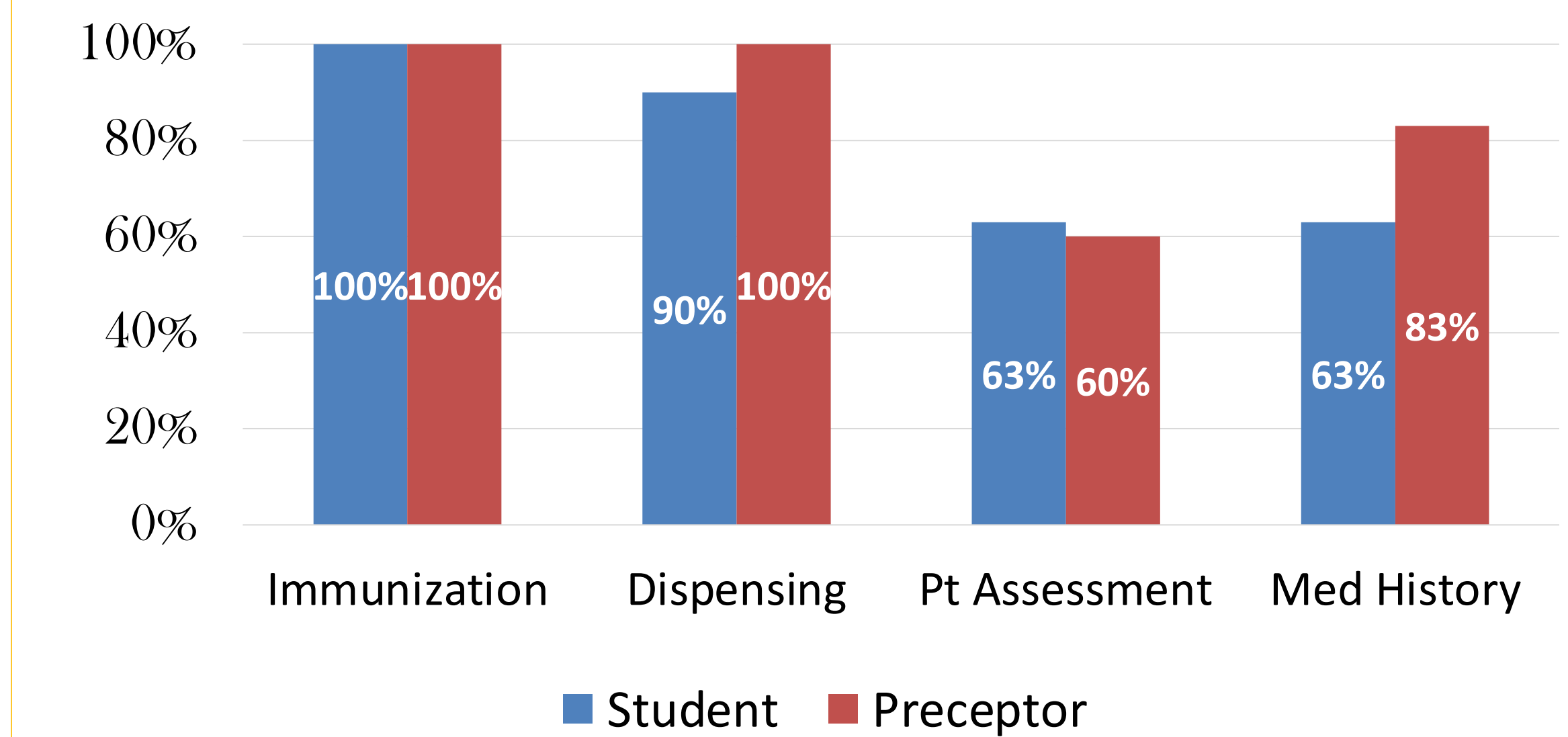
IPPE Curriculum Layout (Fig. 2)

- Students complete relevant Skills Lab sessions and are given preparatory assignments prior to each rotation. They are also required to complete a brief self-assessment at the conclusion of each experience.
- Students spend 60 hours across five unique skills-focused experiences, plus 240 hours in three immersive rotations
- Not included is the Interprofessional Education (IPE) series, which provides 16 hours of simulation towards IPPE



Results

Figure 3. Student / Preceptor Assessment of Preparedness



- More comprehensive skills in particular benefit from additional practice in an experiential setting
- Anecdotal feedback indicates that short skills-focused rotations have resulted in more student confidence during immersion rotations

Next Steps

- Evaluate IPPE intensives by enhancing core skill assessment in Skills Lab series and OSCE activities
- Expand core skill assessment as part of APPE readiness markers
- Evaluate benefit of short-term intensive placements on preceptors and clinical sites

References

- Maes ML, Barnett SG, Porter AL. A Call to Action for Integrating Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences With Purpose. *Am J Pharm Educ.* 2024 Apr; 88(4): 100682. doi: 10.1016/j.ajpe.2024.100682.
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