

# Initial Outcomes for the Community Primary Care Champions Fellowship Substance Use Disorder Training

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## Background

### THE FELLOWSHIP

- The goal of the fellowship is to train primary care providers in leadership, healthcare transformation, and education.
- The 6 topic areas are quality improvement, the social determinants of health, substance use disorders, collaborative mental health care, medical education curriculum, and provider wellness.
- Content delivery is primarily through self-directed study, with 4 weeks covering each of the 6 focus areas.
- Lectures are given primarily in the form of online modules. Group Learning is presented in the form of live lectures.

### SUD

- 20.4 million Americans aged 12 and older had a substance use disorder.
- In 2019, More than 70,000 Americans died from drug-involved overdose, including illicit drugs and prescription opioids. In 2019, 4,028 Ohioans died of unintentional drug overdoses, which was a 7% increase from 2018.
- Specifically, physicians have reported “low confidence in addressing addiction, limited access to addiction experts, lack of institutional or office support, lack of behavioral health services, and reimbursement concerns” (Vashishtha, Mittal & Werb, 2017).<sup>4</sup> Learning how population health, quality improvement, and integrated team-based care can strengthen primary care for the most vulnerable and underserved of a community requires additional training, particularly in the midst of an opioid epidemic.

## Goals

- Identify improvement in knowledge and confidence in Substance Use Disorder care and training.
- Understand outcomes of the SUD fellowship training from the perspectives of CPCC fellows.
- Describe urgency and the long-term outcomes of substance use disorder training programs.

## Methods

### (1) ONLINE MODULES

- Edit/audit for updated laws, annual data and community resources
- Pre- and post-survey quizzes were conducted immediately before and immediately after each of the 8 online modules
- Collected and analyze data from the past 3 cohorts (13 fellows) via GraphPad Prism

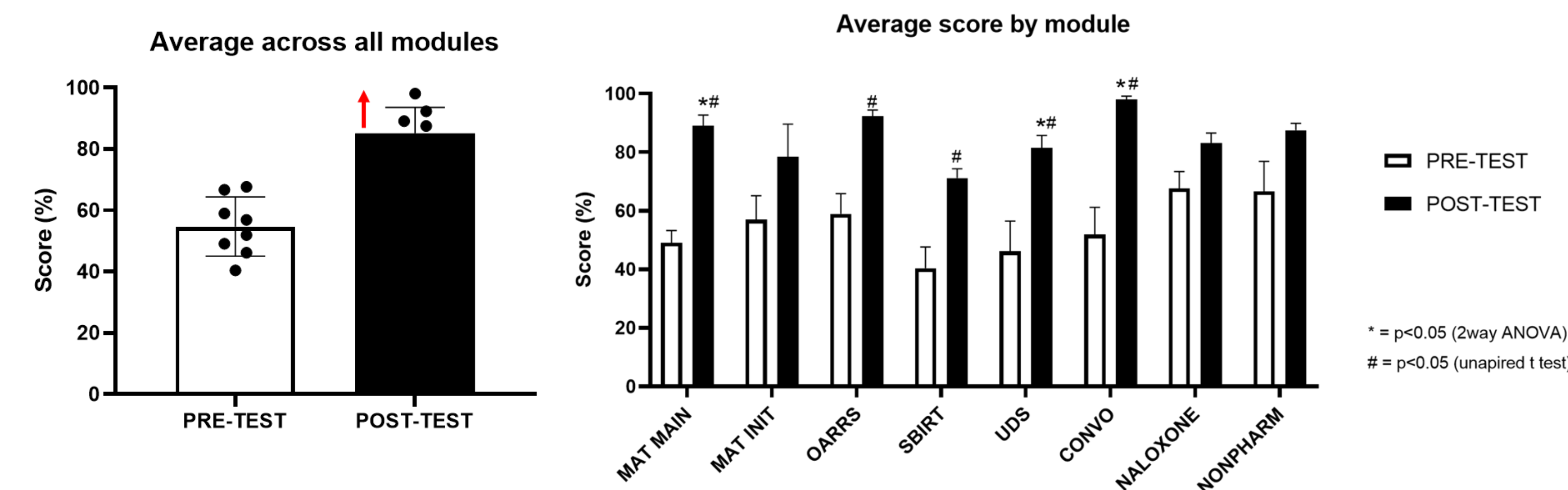
### (2) FOCUS GROUPS

- One-hour long discussions guided by several open-ended questions based on the study aims.
- All students, male and female, PA and MD, from each fellowship year (Year 1 - 2018-2019, Year 2 - 2019-2020) were included in the sample size
- They were moderated by the program coordinator and conducted 6 and 12 months into the fellowship.
- A qualitative thematic analysis of focus groups with the fellows is still underway
- Fellows evaluated the:
  - Fellowship Commitment and Participation (time, content delivery, optimization)
  - QI Projects (barriers, support)
  - HRSA Curriculum Topics (QI, SDH, MH, ME, SUD, Wellness)
  - Post-Fellowship application
- Questions were modified each academic year to better address concerns

### (3) SELF ASSESSMENTS

- All fellows completed an online self-assessment composed of 45 questions before and at the end of the fellowship
- Statistical analysis of self-assessment responses suggests an increase in confidence in substance use disorder training and care.

## Results



**Figure 1. Increased score after each SUD module**

Statistical analysis of responses suggests statistically significant improvement in:

- MAT maintenance, OARRS, SBIRT, UDS, and Crucial Conversations modules (p<0.05).
- Average increase in score from pre to post-test for all individuals in all modules (NS).

How comfortable are you having opioid dependent patients come to your practice?

	Pre	Post
01	4	3
02	5	4
03	4	4
04	3	4
05	4	5
06	1	4
07	2	3
08	1	3
09	2	2

How knowledgeable are you about local treatment services and community resources for patient with substance use disorders?

	Pre	Post
01	3	4
02	4	4
03	2	4
04	3	4
05	4	4
06	2	4
07	2	3
08	1	4
09	2	3

1= Not at all  
2= Slightly  
3= Moderately  
4= Quite  
5= Extremely

How confident are you diagnosing substance use disorders?

	Pre	Post
01	4	4
02	4	4
03	3	3
04	3	4
05	5	5
06	2	4
07	2	4
08	3	4
09	2	2

**Figure 2. Overall increase in confidence for each fellow**

A few preliminary themes include:

- increased understanding of SUD material
- increased confidence in caring for patients with SUD
- interest in advocacy and utilization of SUD in clinic

## Conclusions

- ✓ Since implementation of this fellowship in July 2018, 14 fellows have fully completed the curriculum, and another 6 are expected.
- ✓ SUD modules proved a successful content delivery method.
- ✓ This part-time fellowship proved valuable in enhancing community-based providers' knowledge and confidence in addressing SUD in the primary care setting.
- ✓ Future studies will continue to look at Post grad follow-up outcomes; satisfaction, application and retention of fellowship.