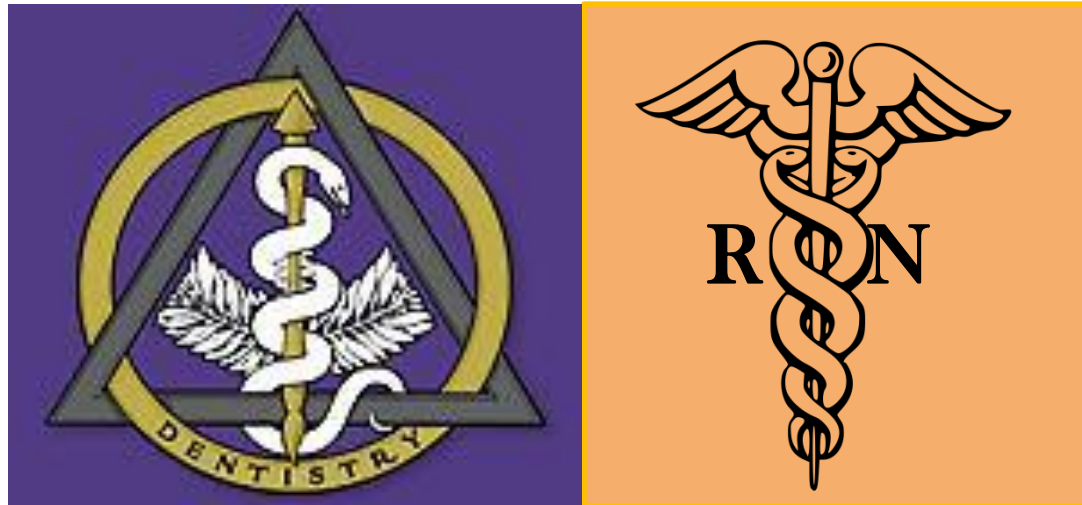


Managing Dental Emergencies through Nursing/Dental Collaborative Care



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Background

- Students trained within health professions often lack opportunities to share:
 - Knowledge
 - Skills
 - Attitudes
 - Strategies for teamwork



Background

- Patients with oral health needs often present to non-dental providers
 - Emergency departments
 - Primary care sites
 - School nurses office
- Health care providers in these settings have limited training to assess dental emergencies



Pilot Program for Nursing and Dental Students

- Dental Emergency Clinic (EC)
 - Housed in School of Dental Medicine
 - Stand alone building
 - One city block from major university hospital and School of Nursing
 - Approximately 15-20 patients daily in EC



EC Experience

- Monday/Wednesday/Friday Mornings
- 2 weeks Rotations
- Nursing/Dental students work in teams
- Fourth Year Nursing/Third year Dental
- Walk in patient populations



EC Experience

- Assess and prioritize oral health needs
- Identify emergency oral/general health
- Education related to health promotion, medication compliance, follow-up



Student Weekly Summary

- Every Friday meet with Nursing and Dental faculty to present a case
 - Priority patient
 - Patient needs
 - Interprofessional needs



Evaluation

- Interprofessional teamwork Pre/Post test survey
- Reflective Journaling on experience of interprofessional patient care

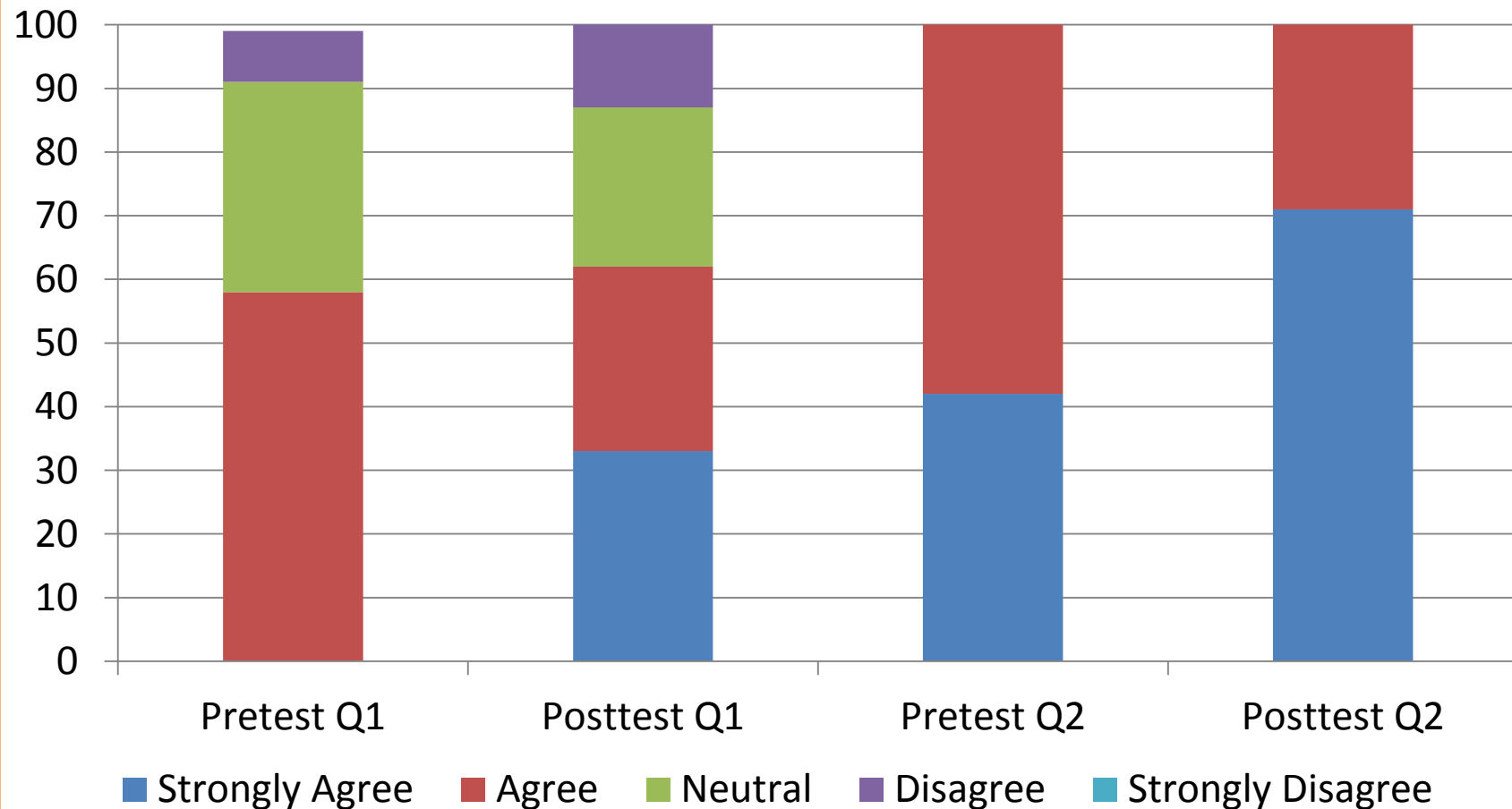


Pre-test & Post-test Questionnaires



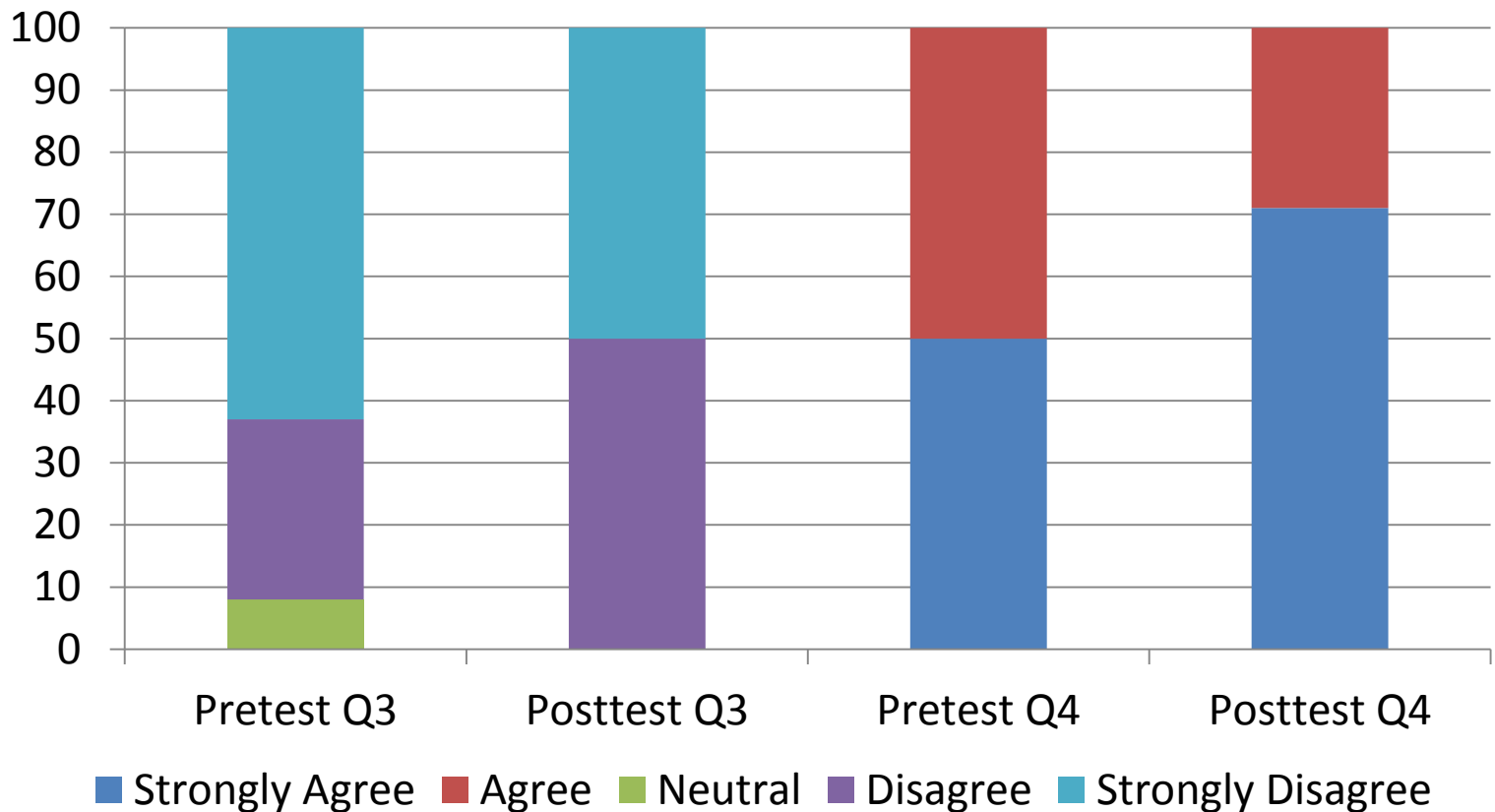
Q1. Knowing when to talk to other professionals outside of my discipline is common sense

Q2. It is useful to learn other health sciences students' perspectives (knowledge and beliefs) about my profession



Q3. I don't want to spend time working with other health and social work students/professionals to be prepared for my professional role

Q4. Health care delivery in the near future will need teams of different professionals to provide improved patient outcomes



Reflective Journals

The most beneficial aspect about interprofessional teamwork was.....

- Overall the difference in professions (3)
- Collaboration (4)
- Learn about medications from the nurse (4)
- Learn from others (6)
- Learn the role of the dentist (6)
- Learn how nurses give comfort, teach and interact with patients (11)



Reflective Journals

How would you apply knowledge gained in this experience within the first 6 months of your professional practice?

- More comfortable with dental issues (3)
- More comfortable with overall disease issues not only dental (4)
- Teaching the patient about health issues other than dental (4)
- More comfortable referring (13)



Reflective Journals

The part I found most difficult in working with other health care providers in this experience was

- Not having a lot of information related to oral health (3)
- Financial issues (3)
- Nothing (4)
- Who does what (5)
- Teach dental language (5)
- Unfamiliar with environment (6)



Reflective Journals

What suggestions do you have for improvement in the Dental EC for future dental/nursing students?

- Allow nursing students more independence with history taking (3)
- Not having a lot of information related to oral health (3)
- Have students develop mutual goals for session (3)
- Observe nurse in hospital (4)
- Define learning objectives for students (5)
- Increase sessions (7)
- Make introductory video of experience (7)



Conclusions

Journal themes included:

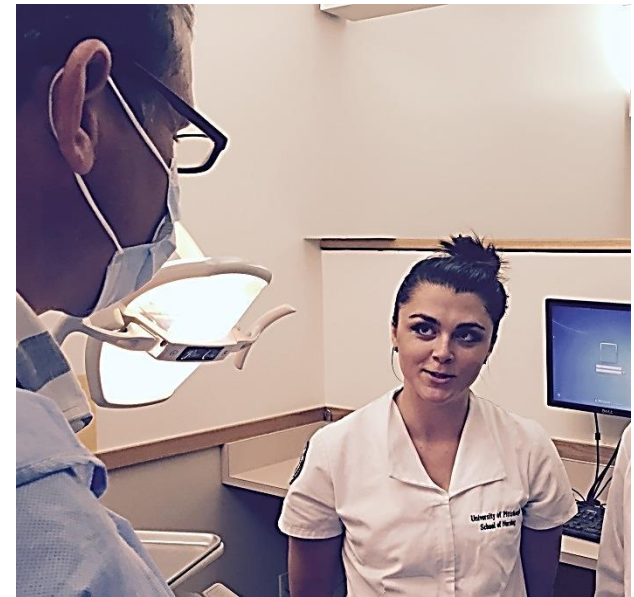
- Learning how to communicate in non-technical language
- Enhanced understanding of oral & extra-oral presentation of dental infections
- Requesting additional clinical time together in non-dental setting



Conclusions

Students “agreed” or “strongly agreed”:

- Health care delivery will require shared learning & teamwork to improve care
- Interprofessional communication skills required more than “common- sense”



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