

The Last State to Grant Nurse Practitioners DEA Licensure: An Education Improvement Initiative on the Florida Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

Joni Kellams, DNP, ARNP, FNP-BC John Maye, PhD, CRNA
University of South Florida, College of Nursing

Introduction

Since January 2017, Florida Nurse Practitioners (NP) have joined the rest of the states in gaining DEA privileges with HB 423 or the Barbara Lumpkin Prescribing Act. In order to be proponents for safe, responsible controlled substance prescribing and be inline with state mandated prescribing laws, NPs should be aware of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP), created as a safeguard against prescription misuse and overprescribing.



Medscape (2015). National drop in opioid prescriptions, overdose. Retrieved from <http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/843467>

Purpose

To increase knowledge of Florida's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) by nurse practitioners (NP) with active Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner (ARNP) licenses in Florida. Study themes included:

- The drug abuse problem
- The role and description of the PDMP
- How to use Florida's PDMP

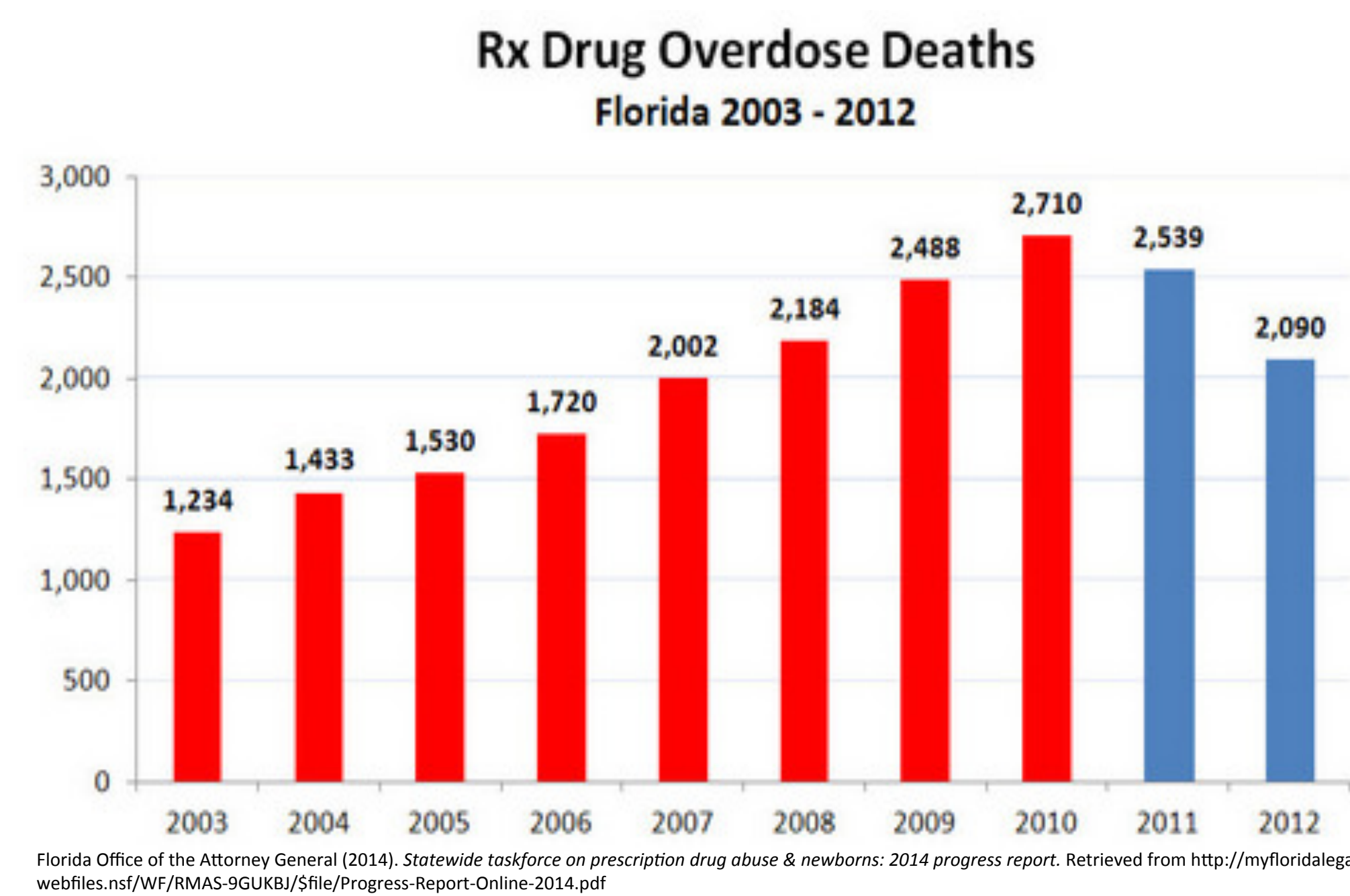
Background and Significance

Drug Abuse Problem

- Addiction continues to be a global epidemic with more than 200 million people reportedly abusing illegal substances worldwide.
- Drug overdose has surpassed motor vehicle accidents as the number one cause of injury deaths in the United States.
- Correlation between prescription abusers and the supply for pharmaceutical opioids:
 1. From 1999-2008 opioid-related deaths have increased from 3,000 to over 15,000 deaths.
 2. From 1997-2007 opioid sales soared 627% in America.

Background and Significance

- Florida has been the focus of the addiction crisis for a number of years, and was once the highest state with opioid purchases.
- Prescription-related deaths in Florida reached a staggering 2,710 deaths in 2010.



Role and Description of the PDMP

- States that have implemented PDMPs have resulted in (1) successful reductions in prescription opioid-related deaths (2) decrease in the supply and abuse of highly addictive controlled substances (3) decline in opioid dispensation
- 22 states currently have dispenser AND prescriber mandates for PDMP participation. Florida is not one of them.
- Prescriber and dispenser participation is necessary for PDMP success.

How to use E-FORCSE

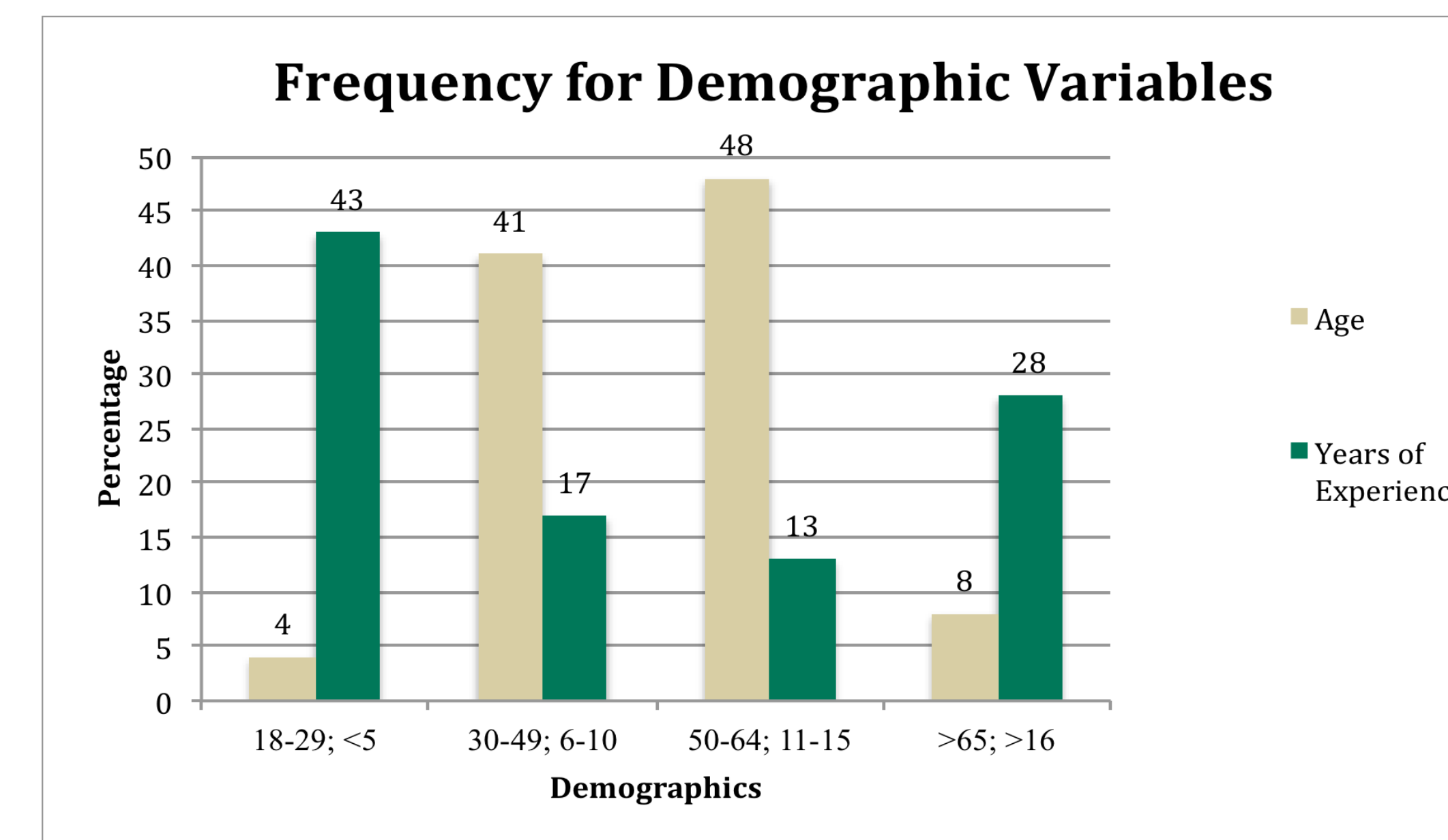
- Electronic- Florida Online Reporting of Controlled Substance Evaluation Program (E-FORCSE) is Florida's PDMP.

Methodology

- **Critical Appraisal of literature**
- **Study population determined:** NPs with active ARNP licenses in Florida
- **Education Improvement Initiative created:** (1) PowerPoint presentation on study themes (2) pretest included questions on: consent, confirmation of active ARNP license in Florida, demographics- age and years of experience as an NP (3) pretest and posttest included: 18 knowledge questions on study themes (4) multiple choice question type including single best answer questions and multiple answer questions

Results

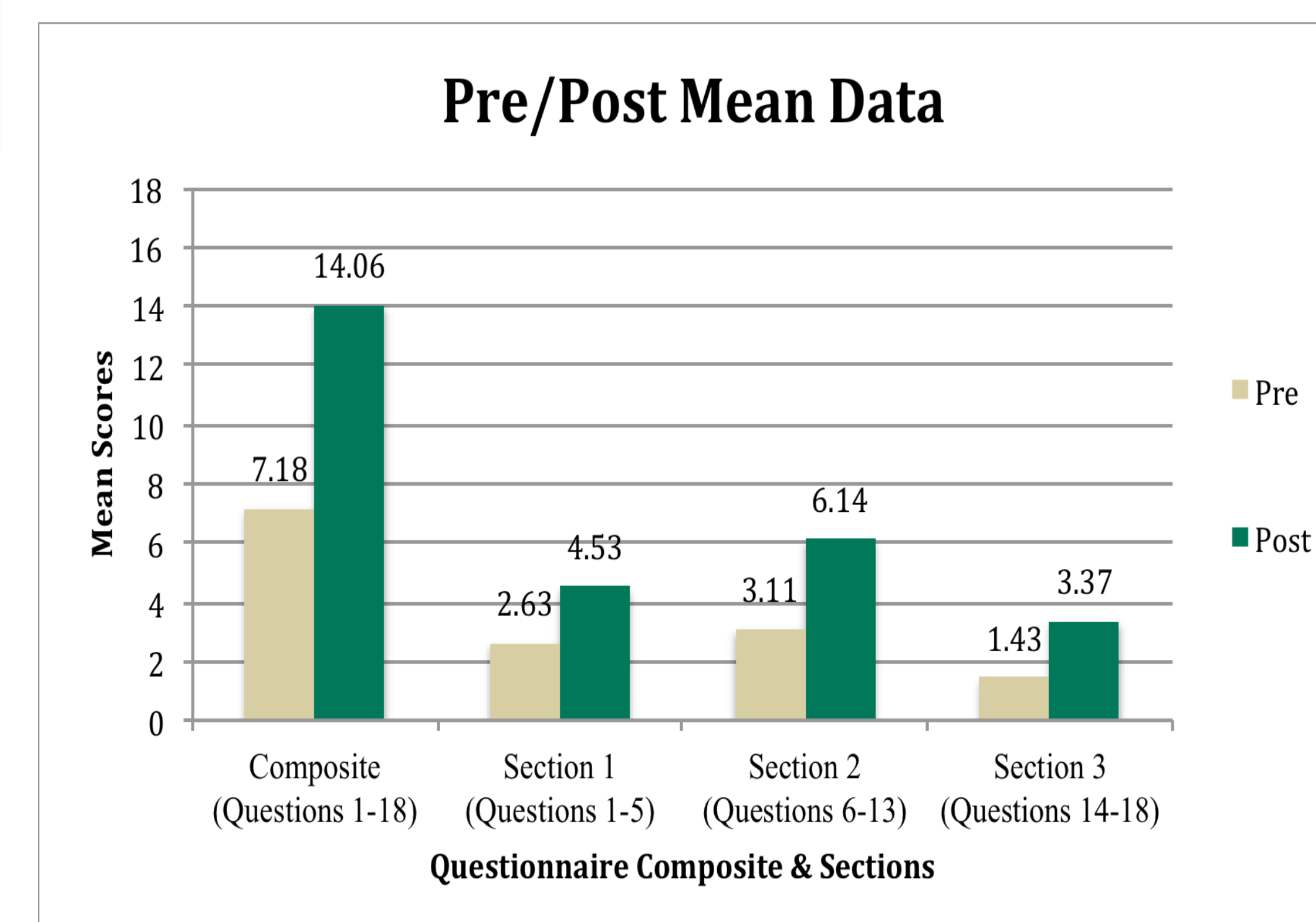
- 16,892 invitation emails were sent to ARNPs with Florida licenses
- 319 completed responses to the pre-questionnaire
- 145 participants completed both the pretest and posttest questionnaires and were included in the education initiative
- The most frequently observed category of Age was 50-64 years old ($n = 69$, 48%). The most frequently observed category of Years of Experience was less than 5 years ($n = 62$, 43%).



Paired Sample t-Test for the Differences between Pretest and Posttest Scores

Variable	Pre-test <i>M (SD)</i>	Post-test <i>M (SD)</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>t</i> test	<i>P</i> value
Composite	7.18 (2.14)	14.06 (2.77)	145	-29.31	<.001
Section 1	2.63 (0.94)	4.53 (0.79)	145	-19.82	<.001
Section 2	3.11 (1.48)	6.14 (1.38)	145	-21.48	<.001
Section 3	1.43 (1.03)	3.37 (1.36)	145	-16.40	<.001

Note. *M*= mean, *SD*= standard deviation



Mean of Pretest and Posttest Scores

Discussion

- This was the first education improvement initiative to focus on the Florida PDMP for NPs.
- The education intervention increased knowledge of the Florida PDMP by NPs.
- The section participants struggled with the most involved how to use E-FORCSE, yet knowledge scores increased the most from pretest to posttest in this section.
- Participants struggled with understanding that the PDMP in Florida does not mandate prescriber participation. It was a far-reaching aim of this education improvement initiative to garner support for prescriber mandated legislation in Florida by increasing understanding of and participation in the PDMP.
- Future research should focus on how an education improvement initiative affects use of the PDMP and ease of use by clinicians.
- Research should emphasize how an education intervention affects implementation of the PDMP for improvement in patient care when controlled substances are prescribed.
- From a legislative perspective, research should be directed at whether participation in an education improvement initiative increases support for healthcare policy changes, namely encouraging PDMP prescriber mandated participation.

Acknowledgements

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IRB Approval (#00027739)

References

References available upon request.