

Human Trafficking Education Integrated in Nurse Practitioner Curriculum

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Purpose

Assess family and pediatric nurse practitioner student's knowledge of human trafficking (1) definitions, (2) laws, (3) prevalence, (4) identification, (5) treatment, and (6) community resources.

Background

Fifty percent of trafficking victims were seen by a health care provider while they were under control of the trafficker.¹

Factors impacting identification victims of trafficking

- Failure to recognize a victim²
- Fear of trafficker, systems, & provider²

Healthcare providers

Knowledge deficits

- Failure to expect victims in practice setting³
- Failure to identify key indicators (red flags)^{2,3}
- Failure to meet ethical responses to provide care³

Educational limitation

- Nurse Practitioner Education: No literature found specific to this population
- Not fully integrated into curriculum⁴
- Inconsistent content⁴
- Inconsistent pedagogy⁴

Health Risks Associated with Human Trafficking^{5,6,7}

Acute or chronic physical illnesses	Communicable diseases	Sexually transmitted infections	Mental health disorders
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Methods

Appraisal of current literature

Identification of population

Nurse practitioner students

- Family concentration
- Pediatric concentration

Development of Educational Intervention

- Lecture
- Videos
- Discussion

Measurement: Pre/Post Survey

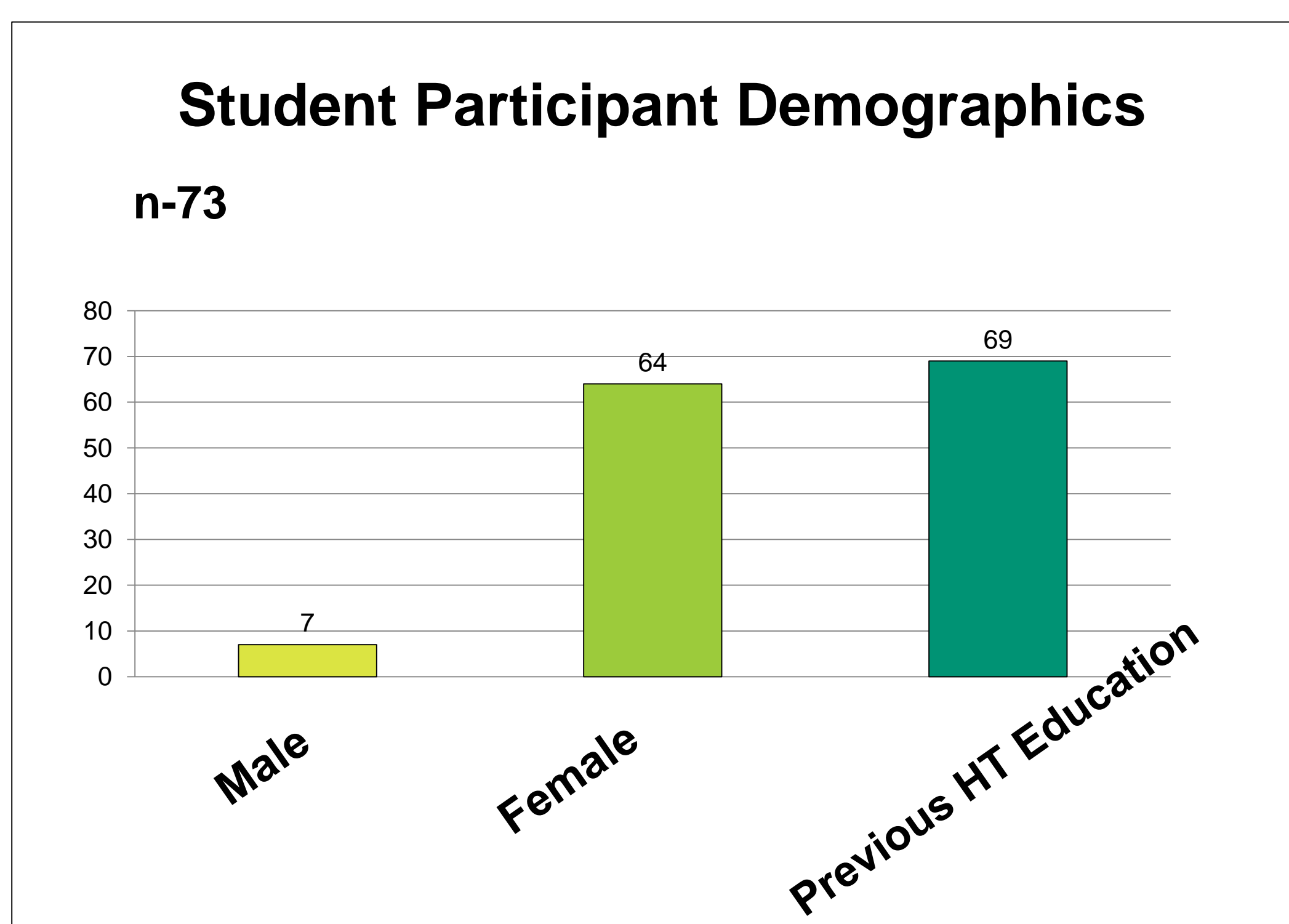
- 6 Likert-style items
- 6–24 point Likert scale

Findings

Pre-survey: Student participants gap in knowledge of human trafficking (HT) was largest in regards to laws.

Pre-survey: Student participants were most knowledgeable about the definitions of human trafficking.

Post-survey: Student participants had the greatest increase in knowledge occurred in students ability to identify victims of human trafficking.

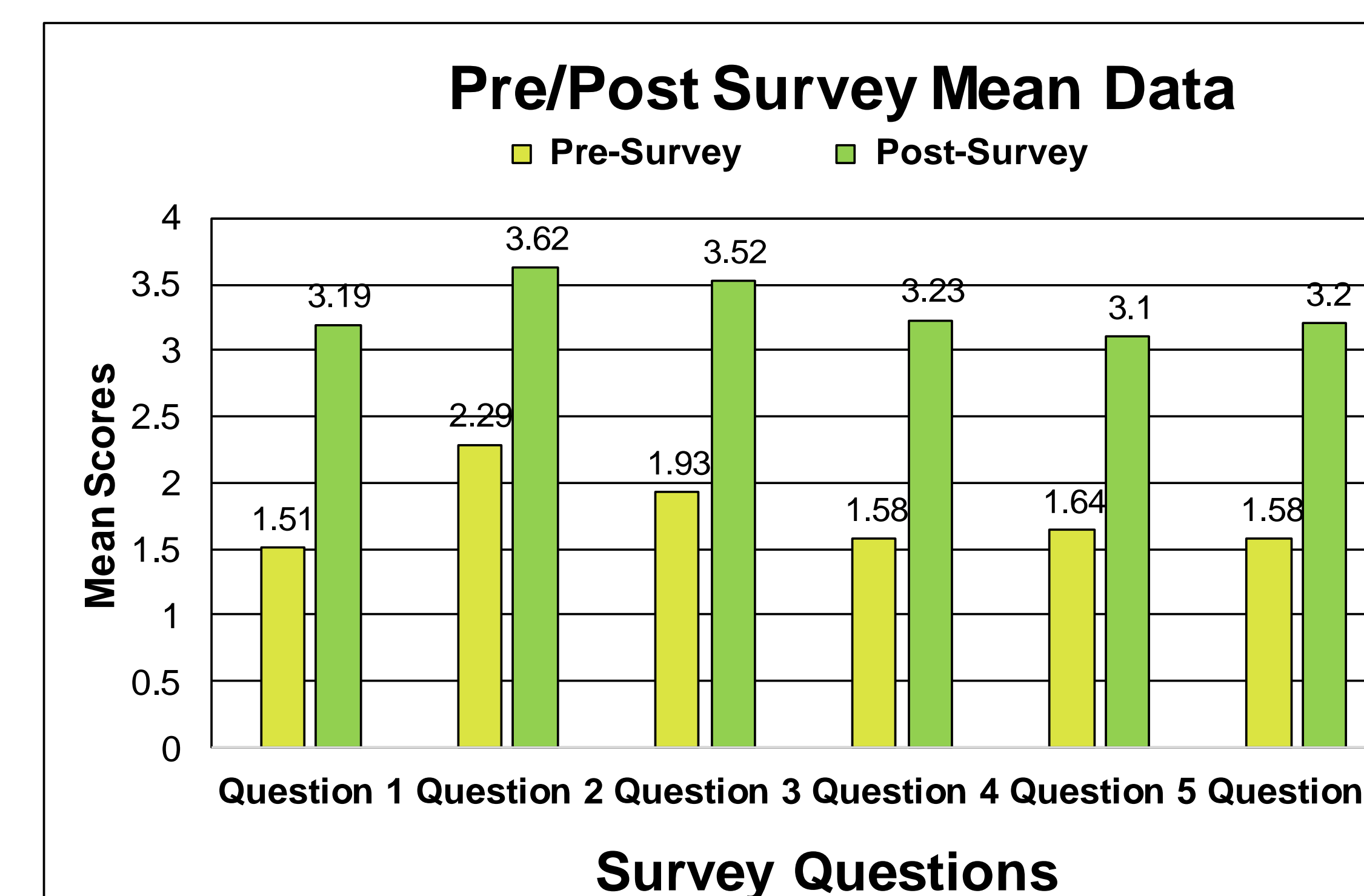


Results

Results of Pre/Post Survey Questions

Question	Pre-Survey M (SD)	Post-Survey M (SD)	t test	P value
Knowledge of laws regarding human trafficking	1.51 (0.65)	3.19 (0.52)	19.16	0.02
The definitions of human trafficking	2.29 (0.87)	3.62 (0.48)	11.75	0.20
Knowledge of the prevalence of human trafficking	1.93 (0.77)	3.52 (0.50)	14.53	0.62
Ability to identify victims of human trafficking	1.58 (0.52)	3.23 (0.49)	20.78	0.20
Ability to appropriately treat a victim of human trafficking	1.64 (0.61)	3.10 (0.54)	14.81	0.85
Knowledge of community and social service resources for victims of human trafficking	1.58 (0.65)	3.20 (0.55)	16.48	0.77

Note. M = mean, SD = standard deviation, p < 0.05



Discussion

Implications for Practice

- A knowledge gap was identified in family and pediatric nurse practitioner students regarding human trafficking.
- An educational intervention increased knowledge of human trafficking.
- Informed nurse practitioners have increased ability to recognize human trafficking victims and provide appropriate interventions.

Sustainability for Education

- Further research is needed to determine the best method of integrating human trafficking content into family and pediatric nurse practitioner curriculum.
- A educational toolkit will be developed to provide consistent education to all health care providers. The toolkit will outline human trafficking content which includes: definitions; laws; prevalence; identification; treatment; and referral to community resources.

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References

References provided on request

