

Development, Implementation and Evaluation of a Novel Neuropalliative Care Education Curriculum



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Background

Palliative Care (PC) Training Improves Neurology Care



Communication Skills

Improved patient-doctor interaction

Prognostication Skills

Better illness outcome prediction

Decision-Making

Informed treatment choices

Objectives

- To develop a novel, scalable palliative care curriculum for neurology residents and subspecialty fellowship training programs.
- To assess feasibility, learner engagement, and changes in self-reported preparedness in serious illness communication using pre/post surveys, performance-based simulation assessments, and qualitative interviews.

Methods

4. Evaluation Methods

Mixed-methods study to assess feasibility and effectiveness

3. Subspecialty Specific Integration

Tailored scenarios for various subspecialties (NCC, stroke, epilepsy, movement disorders, neuromuscular)

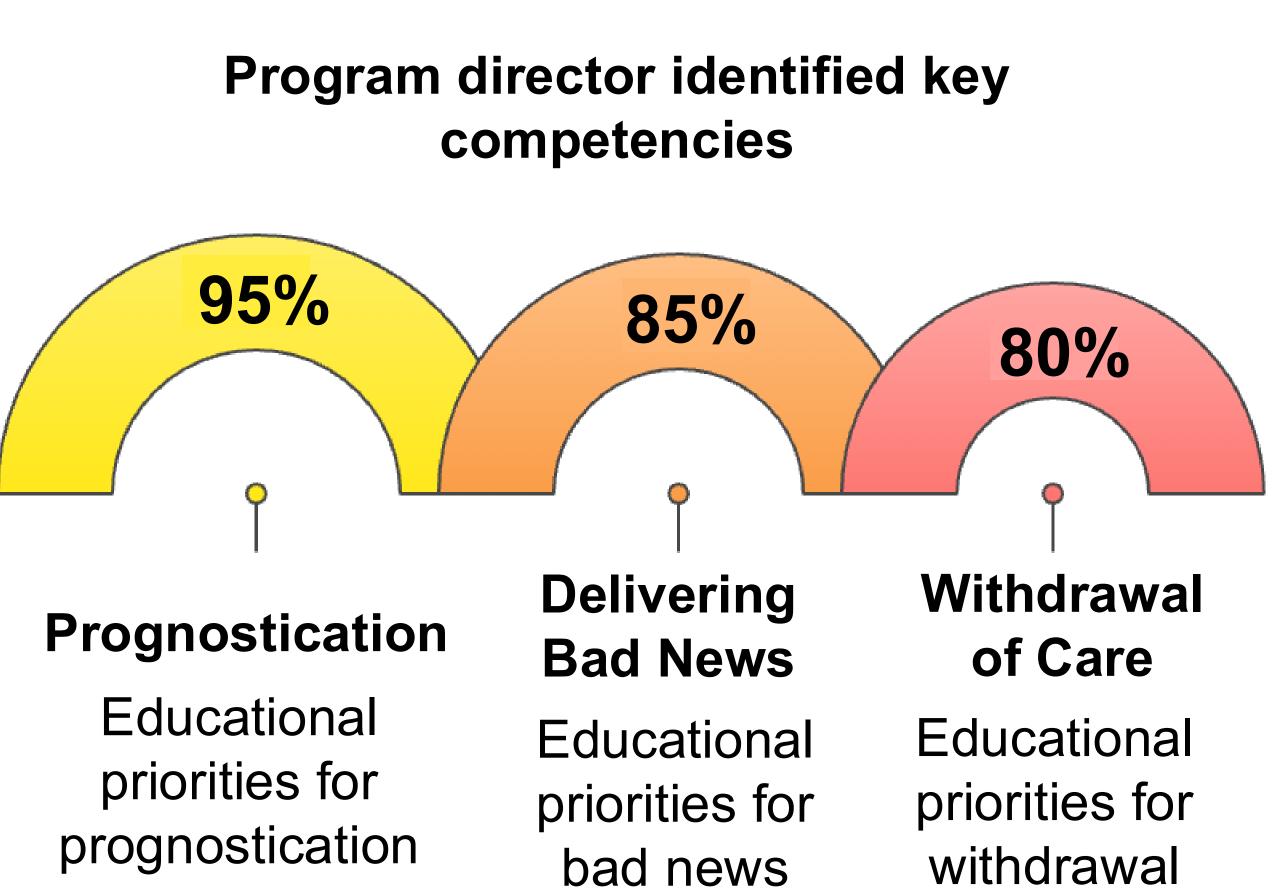
2. Simulation-Based Training

In-person simulations using VitalTalk techniques for practical skills

1. Didactic Sessions

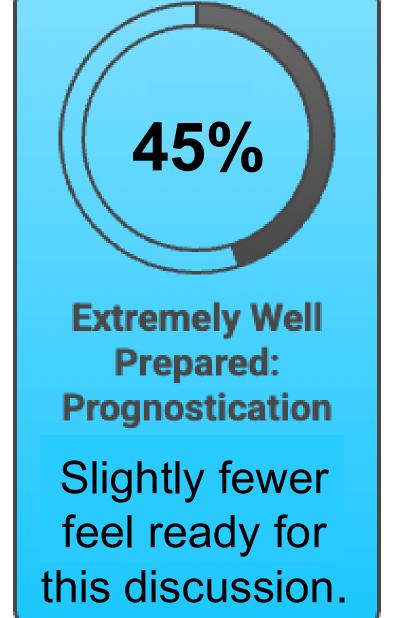
Didactics with online modules from EPEC-N for flexible learning

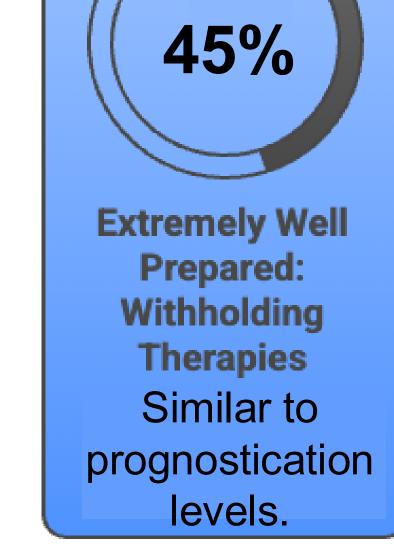
Results



NCC Fellows' Preparedness in PC Topics **Prior to Intervention**

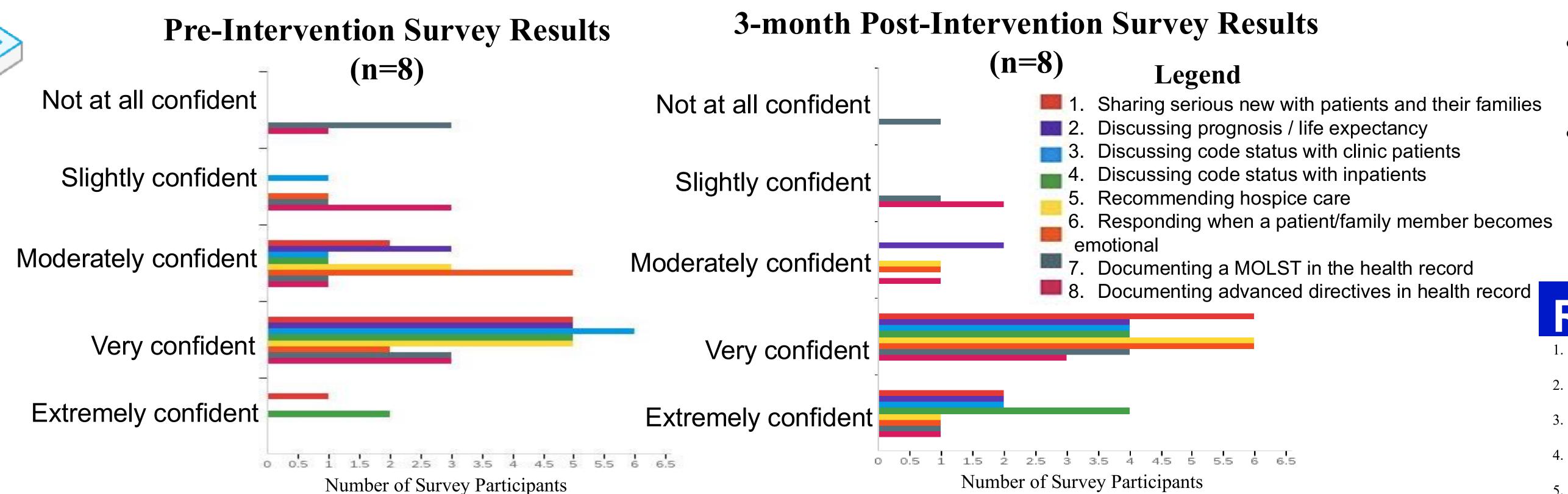




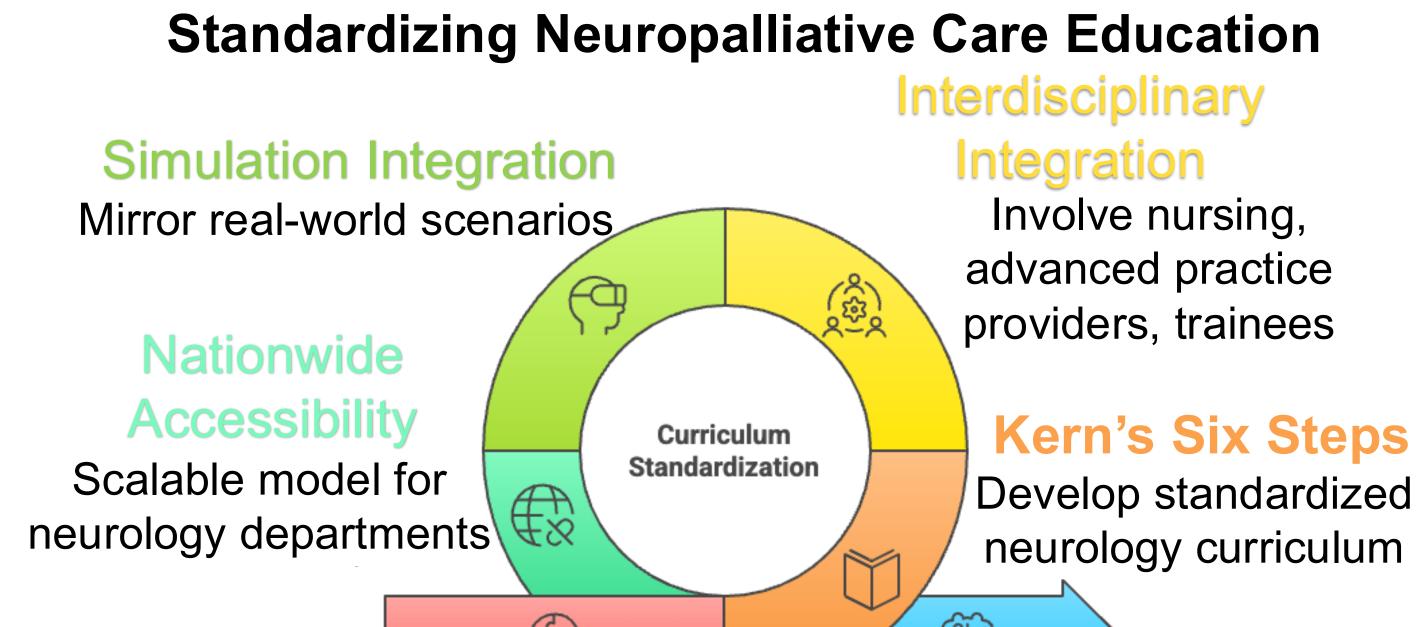


NCC fellows feel most prepared to deliver bad news, but less so for discussing prognostication and withdrawing/withholding therapies.

A novel, simulation-based neuropalliative care curriculum improves neurologists' preparedness in serious illness communication, addressing a critical training gap and supporting a scalable model for national integration.



Results



Inconsistent Palliative Care Variable Training Across Neurology

Standardized Palliative Care Consistent Training Across Neurology

Conclusions

- This curriculum represents a novel approach to neuropalliative care education by integrating simulation-based training into neurology and subspecialty education for interdisciplinary teams.
- Grounded in evidence-based communication frameworks and tailored to subspecialty practice, the program addresses a critical training gap in neurology education.
- Preliminary outcomes support its feasibility and impact on learner confidence and skill development.
- Future directions include national expansion and integration across neurology subspecialties to establish a sustainable, standardized model for neuropalliative care education.

References

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