



A 2018 Evaluation Update of the Industry Pharmacist Organization Certificate Program: Commercialization of Pharmaceuticals from A to Z

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Background

- Approximately 14,500 pharmacists completed their degrees in 2017 compared to 7,000 in the year 2000.¹
- Unfortunately, there has not been an increase in jobs, nor an offset in pharmacists leaving the workforce.
- The industry has seen a record high new product approvals which has increased industry practice opportunities.
- In 2016, Industry Pharmacists Organization (IPhO) offered an industry certificate course to prepare students and pharmacists for these opportunities and since 2017, participant evaluations were instituted to identify areas for improvement.

Objectives

- This study serves to report the cumulative evaluation scores in 2017 and 2018 of the certificate course and identify trends for continuing improvement.

Methods

- A total of 8 weekly live online sessions were conducted. The sessions included the following major subject areas: research and development, contract research organizations (CROs), regulatory affairs (i.e. FDA labeling requirements), medical affairs and MSLs, medication information, drug safety, marketing/market research, and a curriculum vitae (CV) workshop.
- Since 2017, data was collected annually from registrants prior and after course participation to identify baseline industry knowledge and knowledge gained from the course.
- Similar to the previous year's evaluation, participants were asked to rate the incremental knowledge gained from participating in the course and this was compared to the baseline pre-survey data of each key subject area.²
- The questions utilized the same psychometric likert scale which allowed participants to rate each question on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the least valuable and 5 being the most valuable.

Results

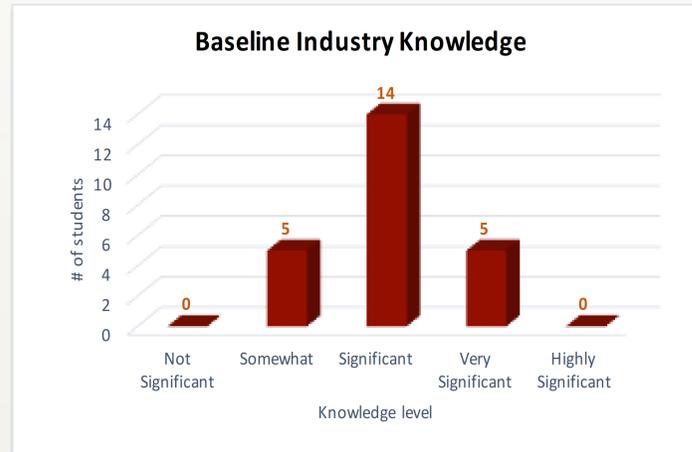


Figure 1. Baseline data from 2017 Course Evaluation (n=24)

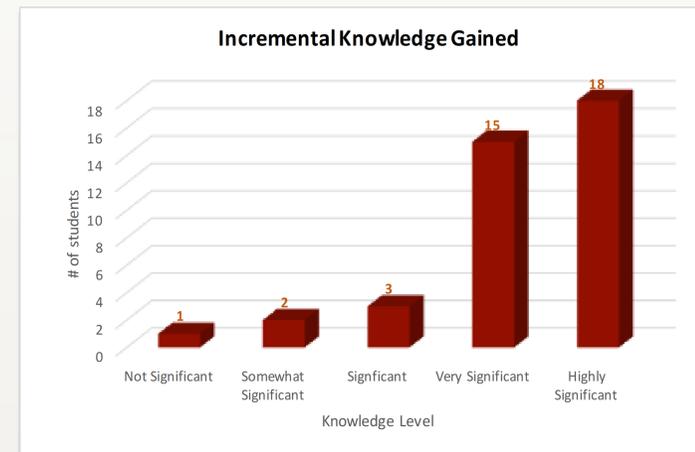


Figure 2. Cumulative Report of Incremental Knowledge (n=43)

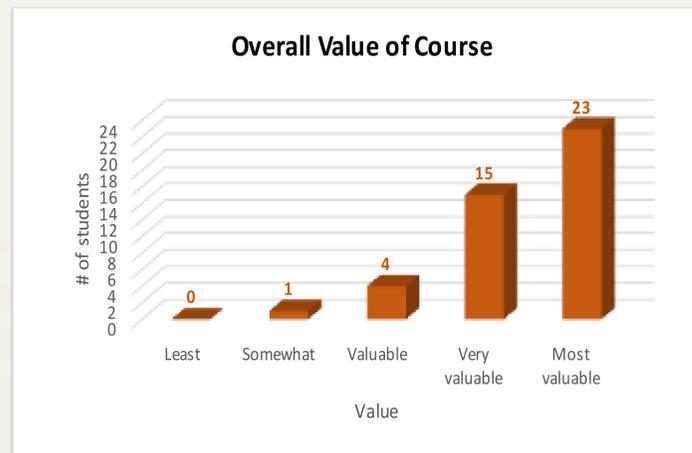


Figure 3. Cumulative Rating of Value for Providing High Level of Understanding of Key Industry Driving Forces (n=43)



Figure 4. Cumulative Rating for Major Topical Areas (n=43)

Discussion



Conclusion

- The IPhO Industry Certificate Program evaluation results continue to indicate that participant gained a very high amount of incremental knowledge in completing this course.
- Based upon these continuing positive results, IPhO is planning to make available archived version of this course in 2019 to increase its availability to enhance the learning experience of professionals pursuing a career within the pharmaceutical industry.

References

1. Academic Pharmacy's Vital Statistics. AACP. <https://www.aacp.org/article/academic-pharmacys-vital-statistics>. Accessed November 16, 2018.
2. Chu N, Le G, Szeto A. Evaluation results from an Industry pharmacist certificate course: Commercialization of Pharmaceuticals from A to Z. American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Midyear Clinical Meeting and Exhibition. Orlando, FL. December 2017.

Disclosures

Trish Huynh PharmD Candidate, 2019 at The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy participated as an IPhO intern. Nam Nguyen, PharmD Candidate, 2019 at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, and Andy Szeto, PharmD at UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy/United Therapeutics participated as IPhO student leaders during the time of this research.

The authors of this presentation have nothing to disclose concerning possible financial relationships with commercial entities that may have a direct or indirect interest in the subject matter of this presentation.