

## Goals and Objectives

- The Telehealth Interprofessional Education Selective at Stony Brook University was offered to provide an early education experience for students from the schools of Dental Medicine, Medicine, and Social Welfare to learn about professional roles, communication techniques, and team collaboration in the management of a simulation patient case on a telehealth platform.
- Goals of the course aligned with the American Association of Medical Colleges Telehealth Competencies of data collection and assessment, communication, technology, and access and equity
- It was unique in its interprofessional team education approach to telehealth
- Our study evaluated the impact of the course on attitudes/understanding of various aspects of telehealth and each profession's understanding of each other prior to and after completion

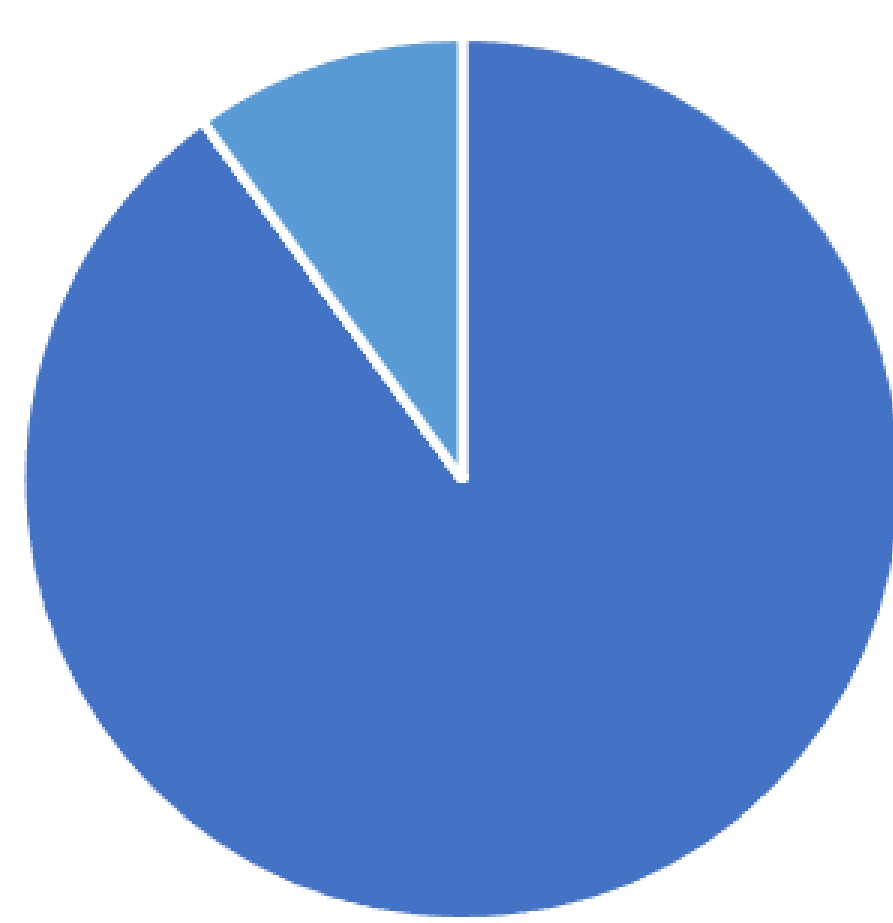
## METHODS & MATERIAL

- Our research evaluated the impact of a thirty-hour course on each students' attitudes/understanding of interprofessional telehealth practice and each others' professional role prior to and on completion of elective. Course goals aligned with the IPEC competencies and AAMC telehealth competencies
- Study used a post-program Qualtrics survey. Students surveyed included medical (n=11), dental (n=10), and social work (n=8).

## Data/ Graphs

"I have gained an enhanced perception of myself as someone who engages in interprofessional practice":

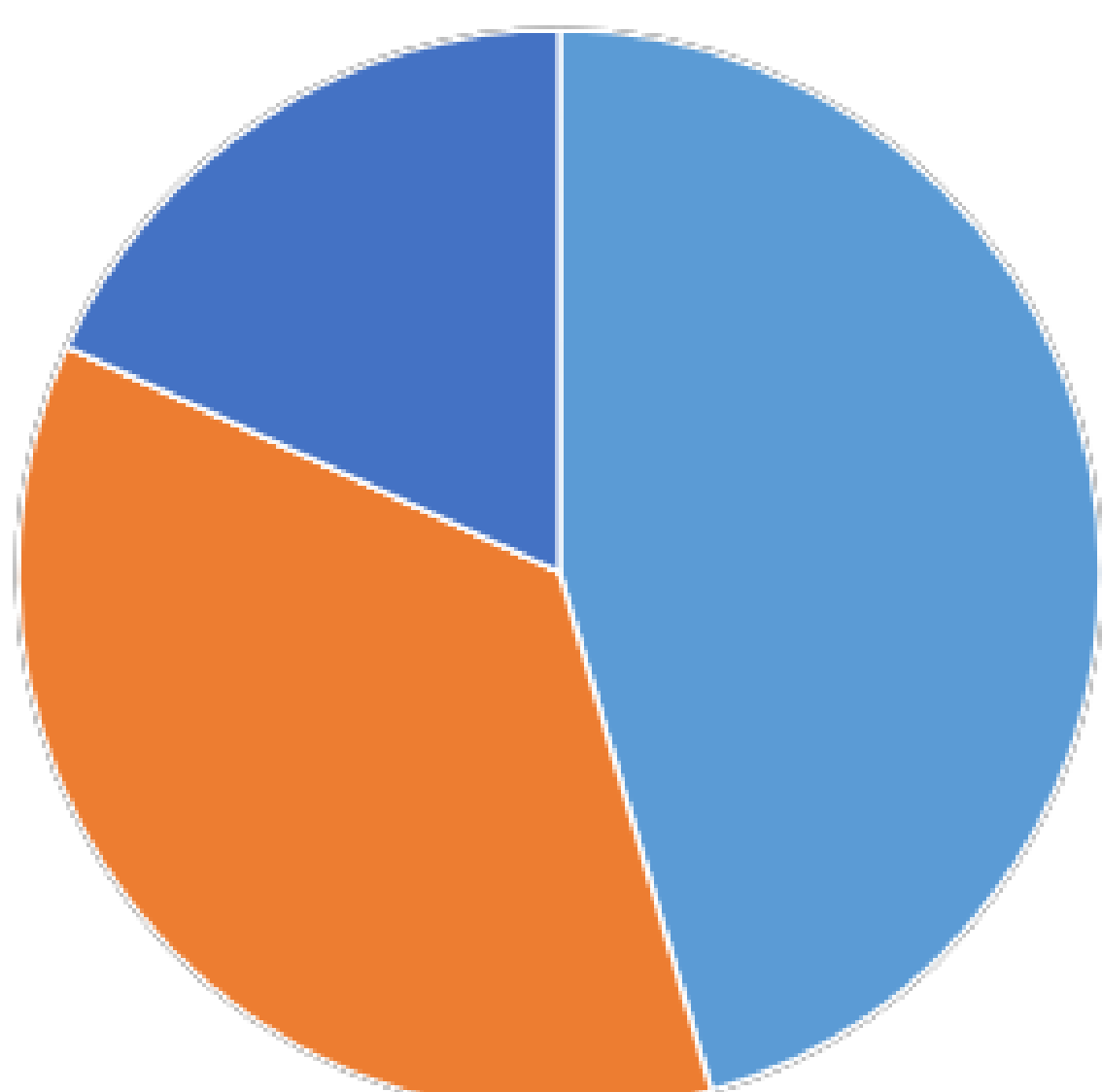
Dental Students



Legend: Strongly Agree, Somewhat Agree, Neither Agree Nor Disagree, Somewhat Disagree, Strongly Disagree

"I have gained an enhanced perception of myself as someone who engages in interprofessional practice":

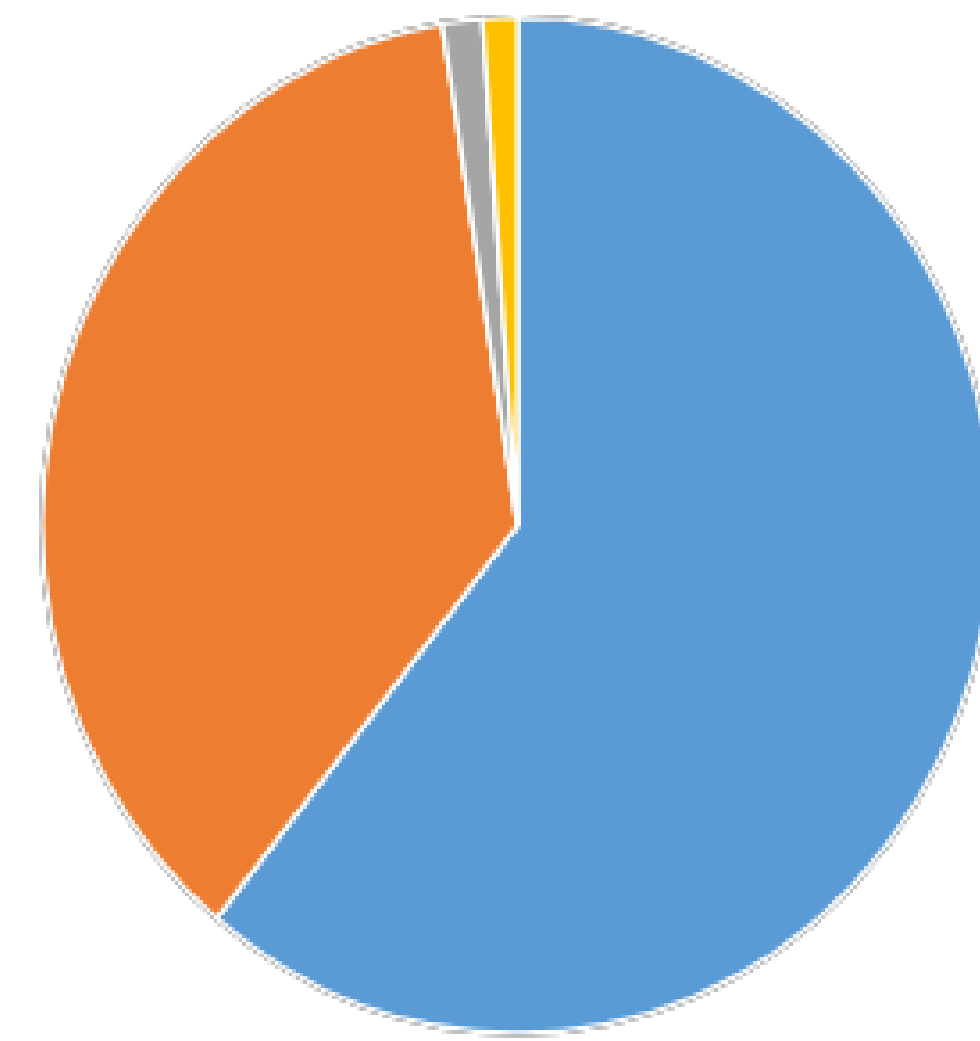
Medical Students



Legend: Strongly Agree, Somewhat Agree, Neither Agree Nor Disagree, Somewhat Disagree, Strongly Disagree

"I have gained an enhanced perception of myself as someone who engages in interprofessional practice":

Social Work Students



Legend: Strongly Agree, Somewhat Agree, Neither Agree Nor Disagree, Somewhat Disagree, Strongly Disagree

## RESULTS

- Based on the data collected the Telehealth Medicine course improved every group knowledge and understanding of the other group's profession
- The greatest improvement of knowledge of any healthcare profession was the social welfare profession. Prior to the course the class rated their understanding of the social welfare profession as a 4.4, after the course the class rated their understanding of the social welfare profession as a 8.0 (a 3.6 point improvement)
- This could be further appreciated based on Group 1's understanding alone of the social welfare profession which improved from a 2.9 before the course to 7.8 after the course
- The only category which show statistical significance was the Avg understanding of the dental profession before the course which had a rating of 5.9 and a T-value of 0.004.
- The general consensus was that students across all professions agreed that telehealth will be an important tool going forward in healthcare, specifically in modern society with more reliance on technology and the need for virtual options.
- However, while there was a unanimous agreement that this will be a positive benefit to healthcare, some mentioned calculated hesitation in that it needs to be developed more in order to be a reliable healthcare tool and that it might not serve every single patient well and must be used for the right patient.
- The most significant result in the data was found in the statement "I have gained an enhanced perception of myself as someone who engages in interprofessional practice" 90% of the dental students stated they strongly agree with that statement. 81.9% of medical students stated they agree or strongly agree with that statement. And 100% of the social welfare students stated they agree with that statement.

## CONCLUSION

- The study demonstrated that future dental professionals benefit from the early introduction of IP team practice with telehealth simulation patient experience.
- In addition to education, the students gained an understanding of each profession's role in comprehensive patient care and the value of their contributions on interprofessional teams.
- Telehealth can open doors for interprofessional cooperation between healthcare professionals and improve the care provided to patients who use that platform.

## References

Panesar, Sameer; Pistiner, Arielle; Korabelnikov, Jonathan; Zareh, Setareh; Hulfish, E. MD; Ippolito, D. MS, OTR/L; Lu, W. PhD; Mercier, H. PhD, OTR/L; Earle, M. PhD, LCSW; Truhlar, M. DDS, MS