# **Exploring Maternal Health Equity and Social Justice Issues in Undergraduate Nursing Students through Student-Led Podcasting**

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## Background

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- Nurses are uniquely positioned to positively impact ethical and equity issues. This process begins in academia. Unique in addressing these concepts, the UTMB School of Nursing (SON)'s BAMBI Advocacy Student Scholars (BASS) Program is a co-curricular, 4-semester service-learning program which allows student support to pregnant, justice-involved women, while exploring maternal health equity and social justice issues.
- With traditional matriculating cohort sizes of approximately 130 students, only 10 are accepted annually into this special program. To address the need to equitably disseminate the knowledge delivered through the BASS program, the culminating outcome for the scholars is a six series, studentled podcast and QI project titled **Advancing Health Equity Through Advocacy: Student Nurse Edition.**"





# Purpose

The purpose of this project was to expose traditional matriculating students to critical maternal health issues and to evaluate whether the podcast improves student listeners' confidence in understanding and engagement in key maternal health concepts.

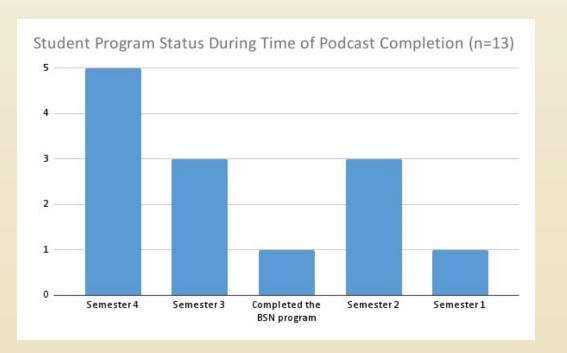
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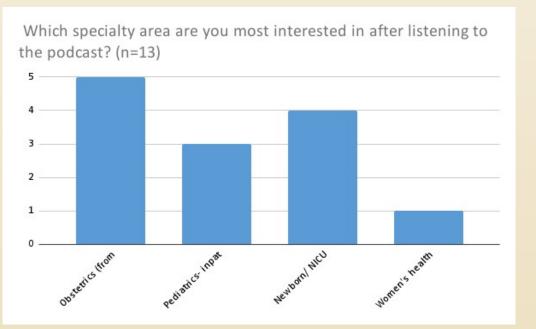
#### Methods

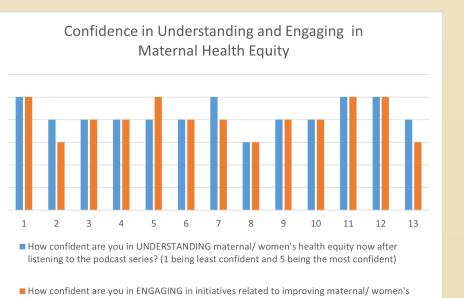
- Current UTMB undergraduate nursing students were invited to participate in the QI project from August 5th, 2023 through October 1st, 2023. Volunteers completed a pre-survey to assess baseline knowledge. After listening to the podcast series, volunteers completed a post-survey to assess their understanding. Volunteers who completed this process received a \$25 gift card for their participation.
- Pre- and post-survey data were reviewed to identify volunteer demographics and student perceptions regarding the podcast.

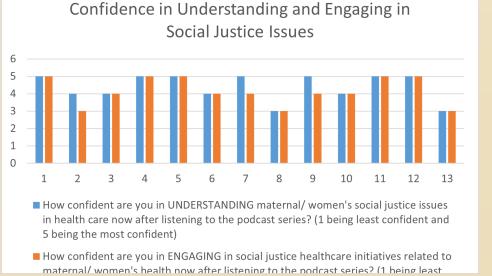
#### Results

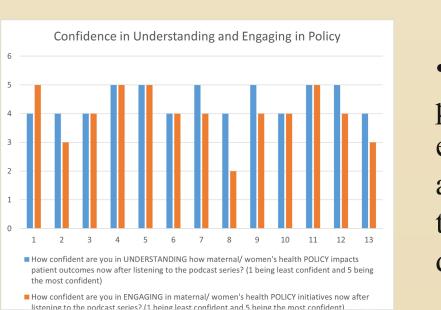
• Forty-six students completed the pre-survey, with 13 completing the podcast series and the post-survey. Approximately 38% of students reported that they do not routinely listen to podcasts.











## **Implications for Practice**

- This project provides an opportunity for BASS scholars to disseminate knowledge and skills obtained over the four-semester program with fellow students through the podcast.
- Podcasting could be a viable tool for dissemination in education for specific topical content
- Diverse and innovative learning opportunities should be used in student nurse preparation.

This was a great series and really drove home how important it is for new nurses to get involved and be the face and voice for patients everywhere. It also helped with my confidence that I can make a difference and my passions matter when it comes to the best care I can provide to patients.

I genuinely appreciated learning about Maternity Health Equity, and I had no idea on what it consisted of prior to but it gave me a lot of insight on how much more I need to educate myself on and how as a nursing student I can make a difference.

Very great podcast and found it very insightful. I enjoyed that it touched on several subjects in nursing and gave me a better understanding on how we can advocate and how important it is to show compassion in these things that we are passionate about

### Limitations

• Volunteers self-report completion of episodes. The podcast hosting platform did not track completion of episodes, which could introduce bias. Participation announcements for this project were only provided through email, which limited participation. Pre- & Post-data could not be linked for analysis