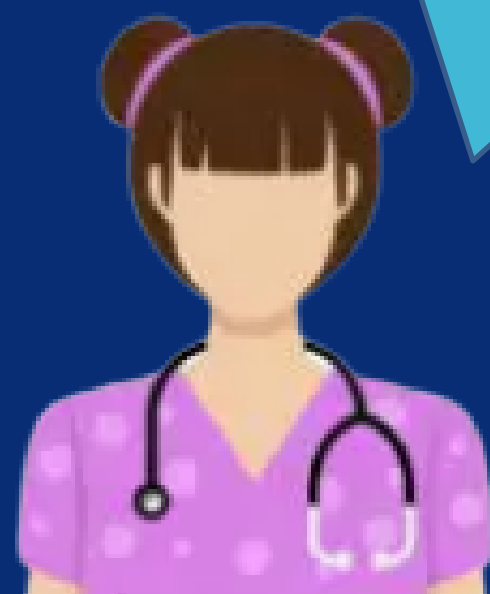


# Virtual interprofessional activities foster role awareness, improved safety, and greater understanding of lateral integration of care in first-year health sciences students.

"It helped show me what I as a future nurse am responsible versus what I should look to my OT counterparts to provide in caring for patients."



-1<sup>st</sup> year MENP Student

"It was insightful to hear the roles and responsibilities of nurses. It was also beneficial to learn the areas in which our roles as OTs can cross over to the roles of nurses."



-1<sup>st</sup> year MOT Student

"It would be useful to have more of these activities so that we can get into the habit and comfort of working with others outside of OT."



-1<sup>st</sup> year MOT Student

"It gave me a preview of what it will actually look like to work with coworkers who aren't nurses when we enter the profession."



-1<sup>st</sup> year MENP Student

## INNOVATING INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION: FIRST-YEAR NURSING AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY VIRTUAL COLLABORATION

Sandra McCormick, PhD, RN  
Erin Epley, OTD, OTR/L



### INTRODUCTION

- Students who engage in Interprofessional Education (IPE) report greater preparedness, readiness, and willingness to collaborate with other professions (Itzhaki et al., 2023).
- Significant barriers to IPE in graduate education calls for faculty innovation.

### METHODS

- Mixed-methods design
- Interprofessional virtual lectures on safety and systems improvement
- Interdisciplinary groups analyzed a case study about safety and systems improvement and compared disciplinary perspectives of harm prevention and collaborative problem-solving

### STUDY LIMITATIONS

- Small study size from one site
- Inclusion of only two disciplines

### CONCLUSION

- First-year graduate students reported benefits of the interprofessional collaboration
- Virtual delivery can eliminate potential barriers to IPE
- Pilot study indicates benefits of a virtual platform for collaboration
- Future research should explore IPE with other disciplines and universities

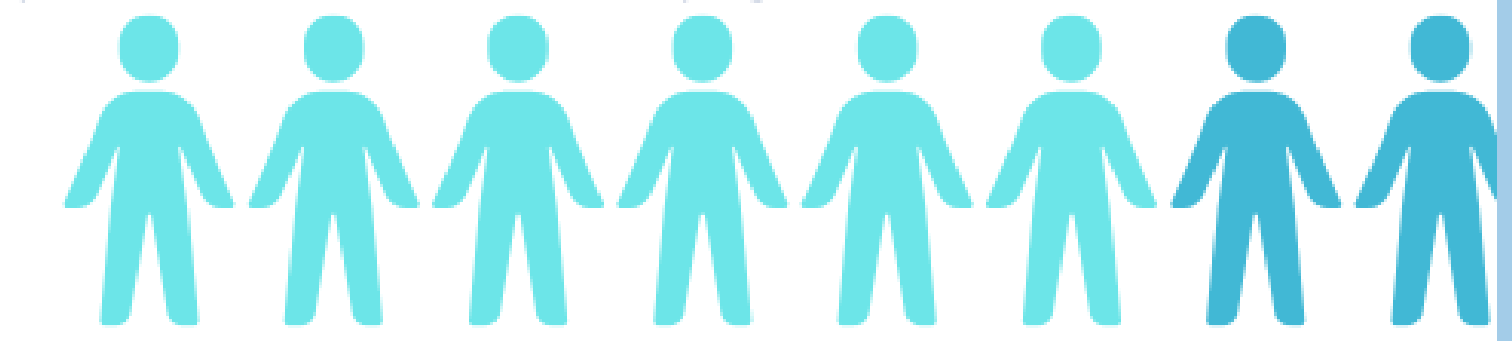


Survey  
Author Contact  
References

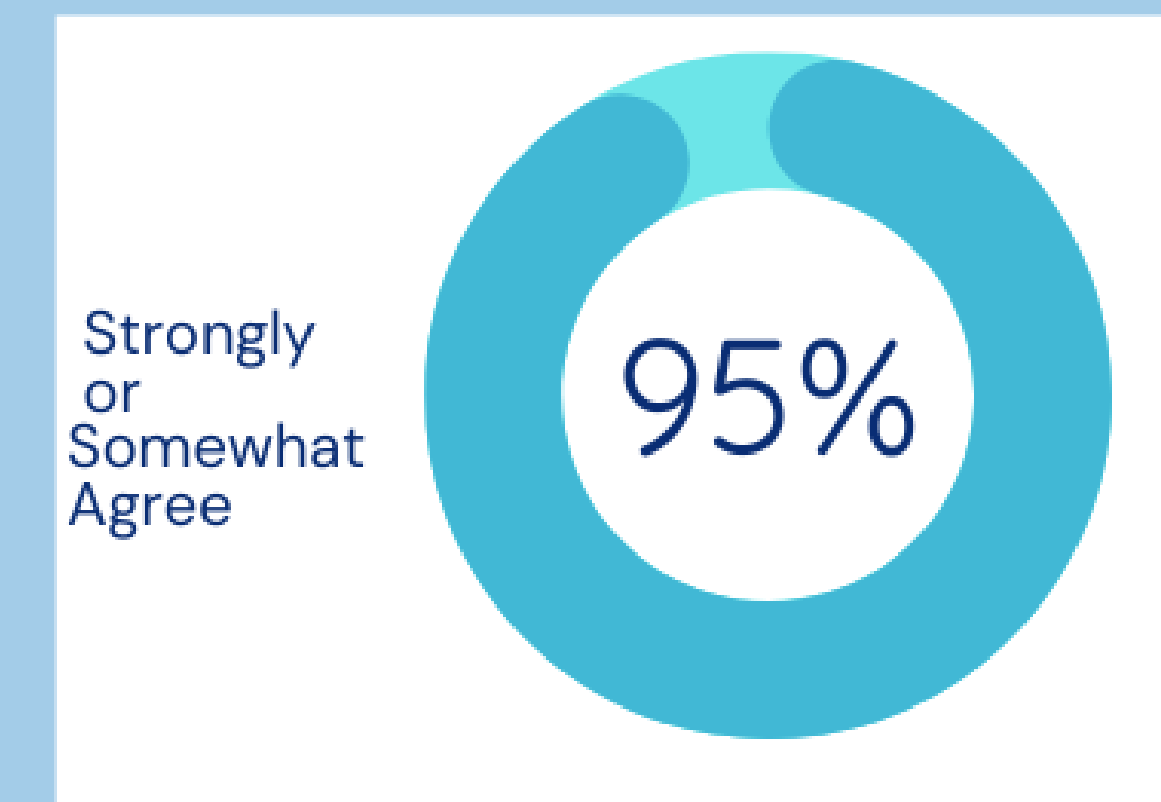
## RESULTS

### Participants

19 Masters' Entry to Nursing Practice students  
19 Masters' in Occupational Therapy students  
81% female  
84% aged 21-30

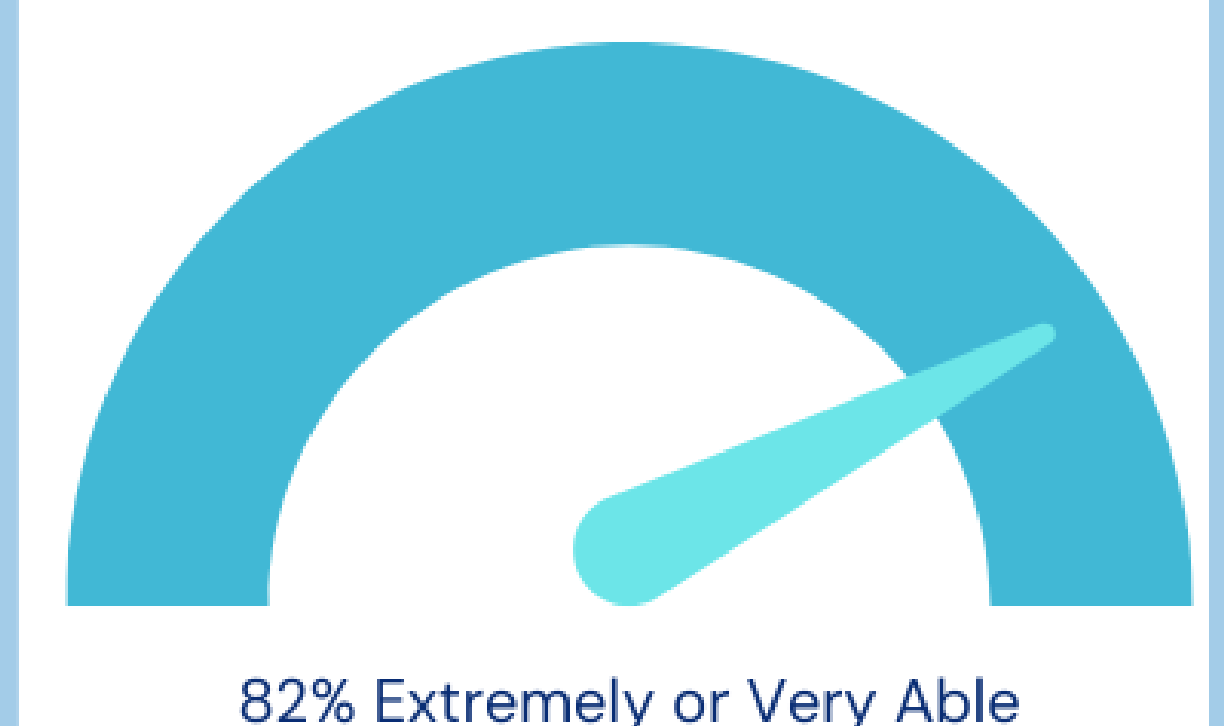


### Nursing Outcomes



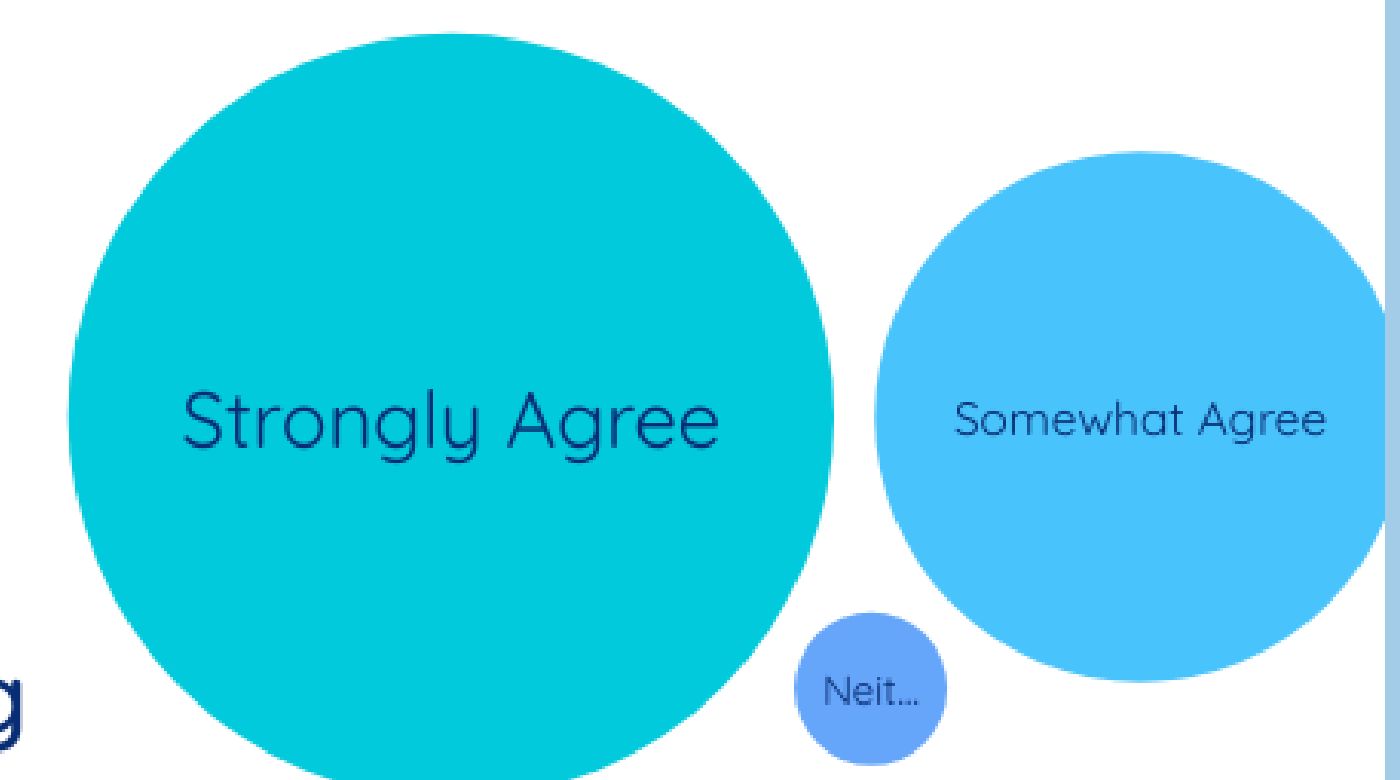
Discuss lateral integration of care and its impact on quality and safety

Apply theories of patient centered care, quality, and safety to selected patient care issues



### OT Outcomes

Construct a personal understanding of the similarities and difference in health-related specialties in current and emerging practice



100%

Discuss differences within the scope of practice and expertise among various professions



Did the activity help you to work better on an IP team in the future?

50% Definitely yes  
47% Probably yes