



Teaching QSEN Competencies to Entry Level Nursing Students

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Introduction

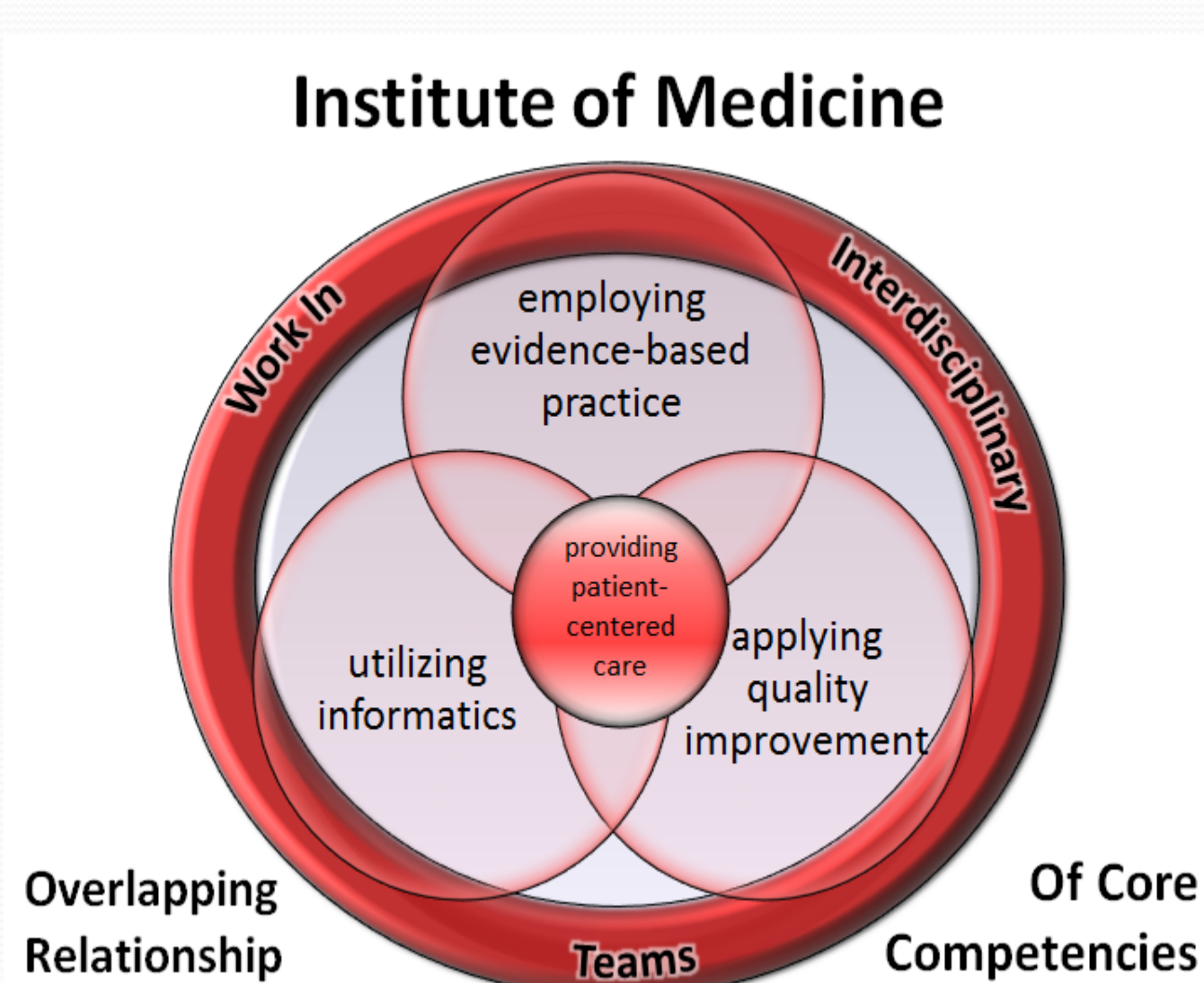
The University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV) is a public state university with a fully accredited School of Nursing (SON), which typically admits 48 students every trimester into their accelerated pre-licensure BSN program. UNLV is:

- ❖ Accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)
- ❖ Fully Approved by the Nevada State Board of Nursing (NSBN),
- ❖ Continuously working to meet and uphold external standards and to remain current and competitive.

A team consisting of two Level 4 BSN students and the BSN Coordinator identified the need to better integrate the QSEN competencies into current nursing curriculum. Although the competencies are embedded into course, level and program outcomes they are not in the fore front. This may impact on the program meeting the requirements of the NSBN and accreditation standards set by CCNE

Literature Review

- ❖ QSEN's goal is to provide students currently enrolled in pre-licensure programs with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes (KSAs) necessary to continuously improve the quality and safety of their future healthcare environment (QSEN Institute, n.d.).
- ❖ The QSEN institute used the competencies from the IOM as a foundation to form the Quality and Safety competencies of:



- Patient -centered Care
- Teamwork and Collaboration
- Evidence-based Practice (EBP)
- Quality Improvement (QI)
- Safety
- Informatics

- ❖ If mastered within the educational setting, students will be able to:
 - identify the KSAs outlined under the competencies
 - incorporate competencies into their daily practice after licensure
 - become more prepared to recognize and provide safer and higher quality of care

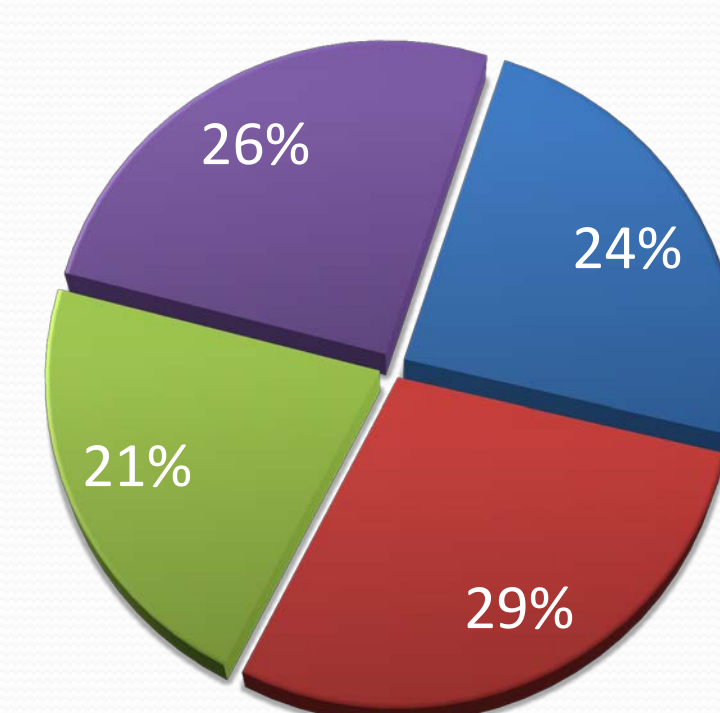
- ❖ The QSEN competencies meet the requirements for the new guidelines set by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) for BSN programs (Barton, Armstrong, Preheim, Gelmon, & Andrus, 2009).



Assessment

Distribution of Students Surveyed

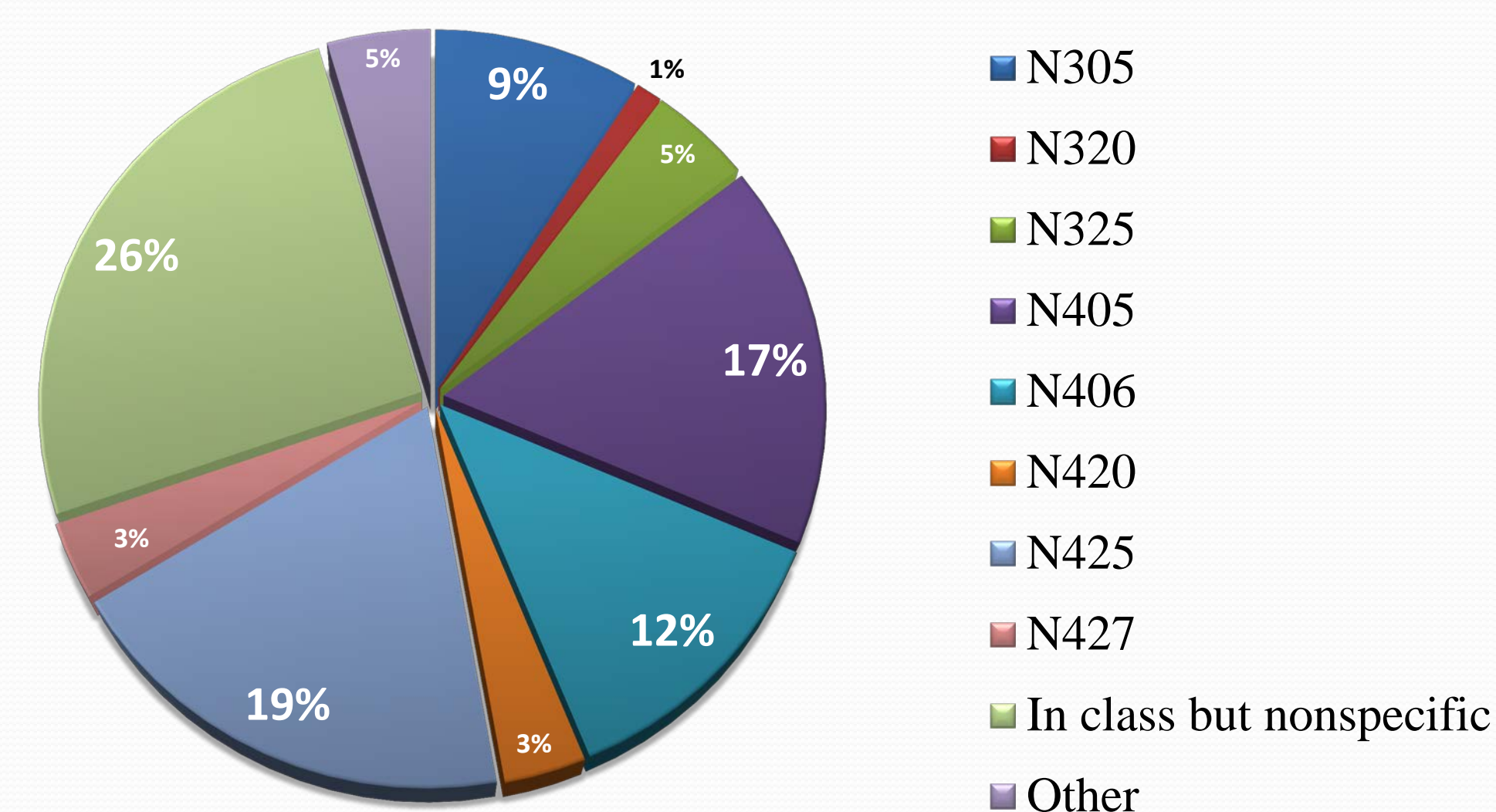
■ Level 1 ■ Level 2 ■ Level 3 ■ Level 4



- ❖ In this study, 139 students were surveyed across all four levels of the BSN program to determine their knowledge about QSEN competencies within the current curriculum.

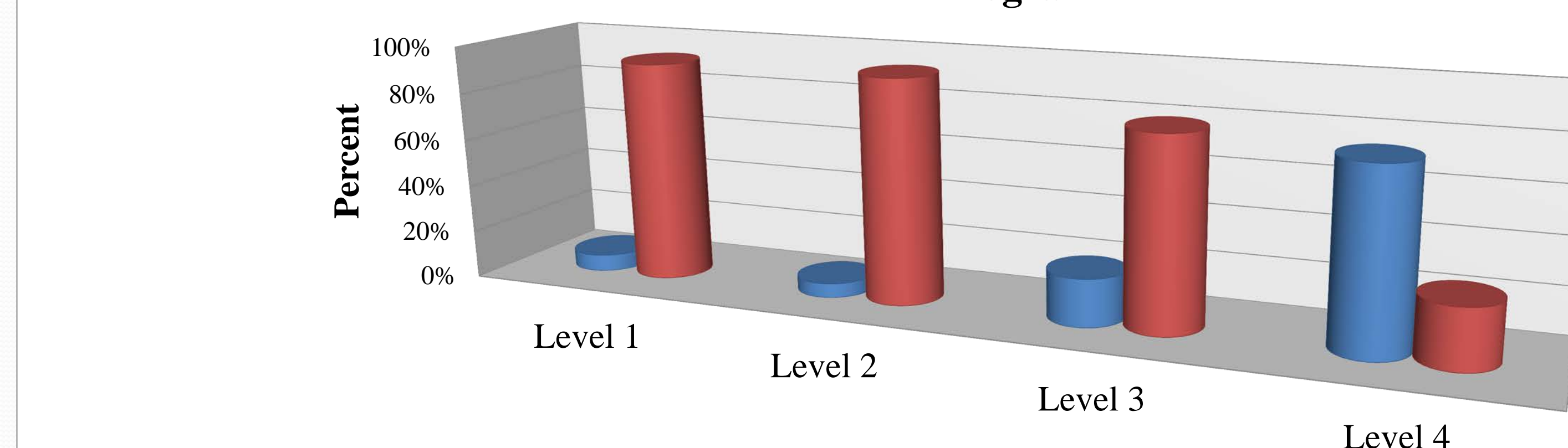
- ❖ Majority of students reported hearing of QSEN competencies in the 3rd and 4th levels of the BSN Program.

Where Students Report Hearing of QSEN within the School of Nursing?



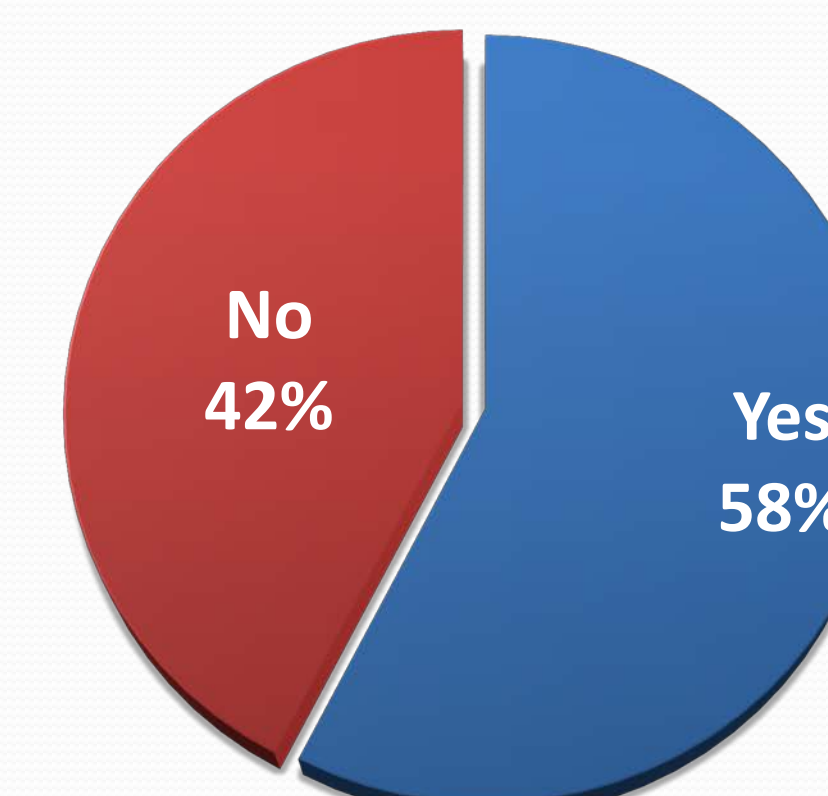
- ❖ Results indicate that many students are not aware of the QSEN competencies including the knowledge, skills and attitudes as outlined in each competency. In addition, these competencies are not clear to students in course, level and program outcomes.
- ❖ Results also show that the level four students, or those in their final semester, are the most knowledgeable in the QSEN competencies. Thus the need for students to be introduced to QSEN in the first level of the program.
- ❖ This data will provide a baseline for future studies to determine the effectiveness of QSEN integration into the BSN curriculum.

Student Perception of the Clarity of QSEN Education in Each Level of the Nursing Program



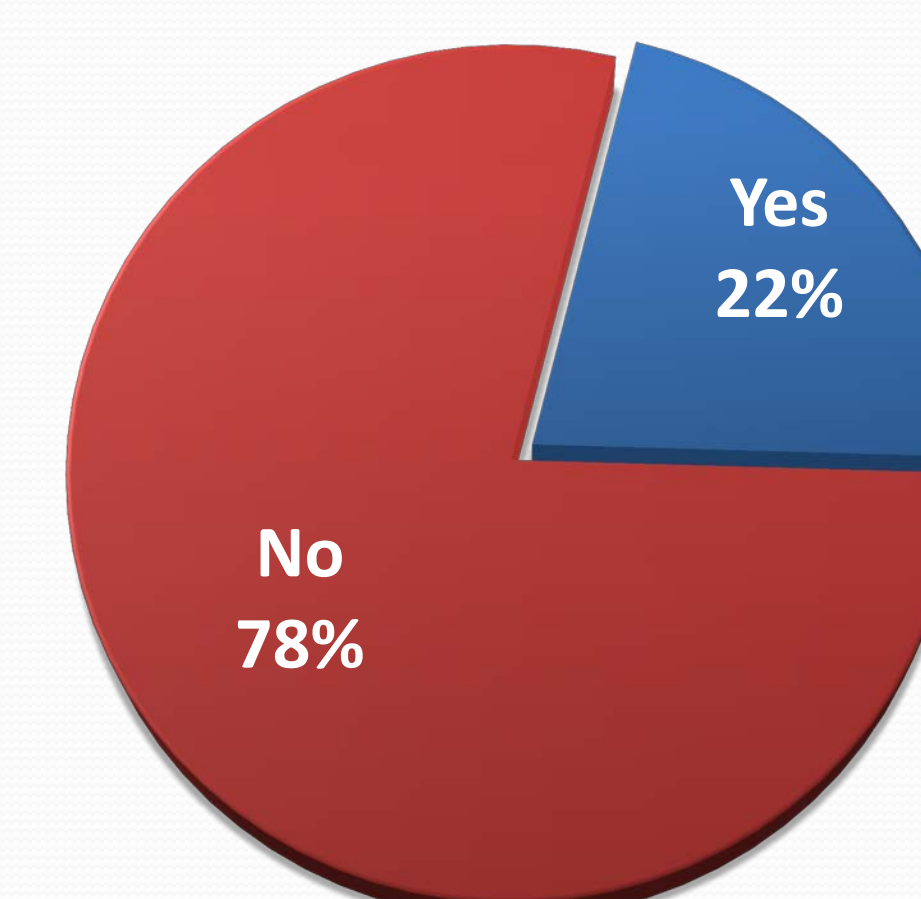
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
■ Yes	7%	6%	20%	75%
■ No	93%	94%	80%	25%

Have Students Heard of QSEN?



- ❖ Survey results reveal that 58% of students have heard of QSEN.
- ❖ Only 22% of students who have indicated awareness of QSEN reported knowledge of all six competencies.

Do Students Know the 6 QSEN Competencies?



Planning

Based on the findings from the QSEN Student Survey, it is necessary for the SON to educate students so that students will:

- ❖ Identify what QSEN is and why it is important
- ❖ Understand the knowledge, skills, and attitudes (KSAs) as it relates to each competency
- ❖ Incorporate all 6 competencies into nursing practice

Implementation

Interventions:

- ❖ Provide a PowerPoint to introduce QSEN to entry level students in order to provide a foundation of understanding
- ❖ Introduce students to the QSEN website
- ❖ Provide supplemental written materials of all 6 competencies and the KSAs to be referenced throughout all levels of the program
- ❖ Promote the use of interactive learning through simulated scenarios, case studies, and/or group discussions to reinforce the standards within the curriculum

Evaluation

Evaluation will occur after implementation of the above stated interventions. It is expected that the materials provided will be useful in increasing student's understanding of the QSEN competencies and how these competencies should be incorporated into their nursing practice. The success of meeting short and long term goals will be measured by surveys, direct observation, and documentation.

References

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