

Background

Methods

Discussion

Postgraduate year one (PGY1) residencies give pharmacists the opportunity to gain further experience in clinical, research, and leadership environments. As part of the ASHP accreditation standards, each PGY1 resident must complete a residency project. ASHP goal R2.2 states that residents must “demonstrate ability to evaluate and investigate practice, review data, and assimilate scientific evidence to improve patient care and/or the medication use system.” (ASHP, 2015). Many residents have no previous exposure or experience with conducting research, creating challenges in attaining this goal.

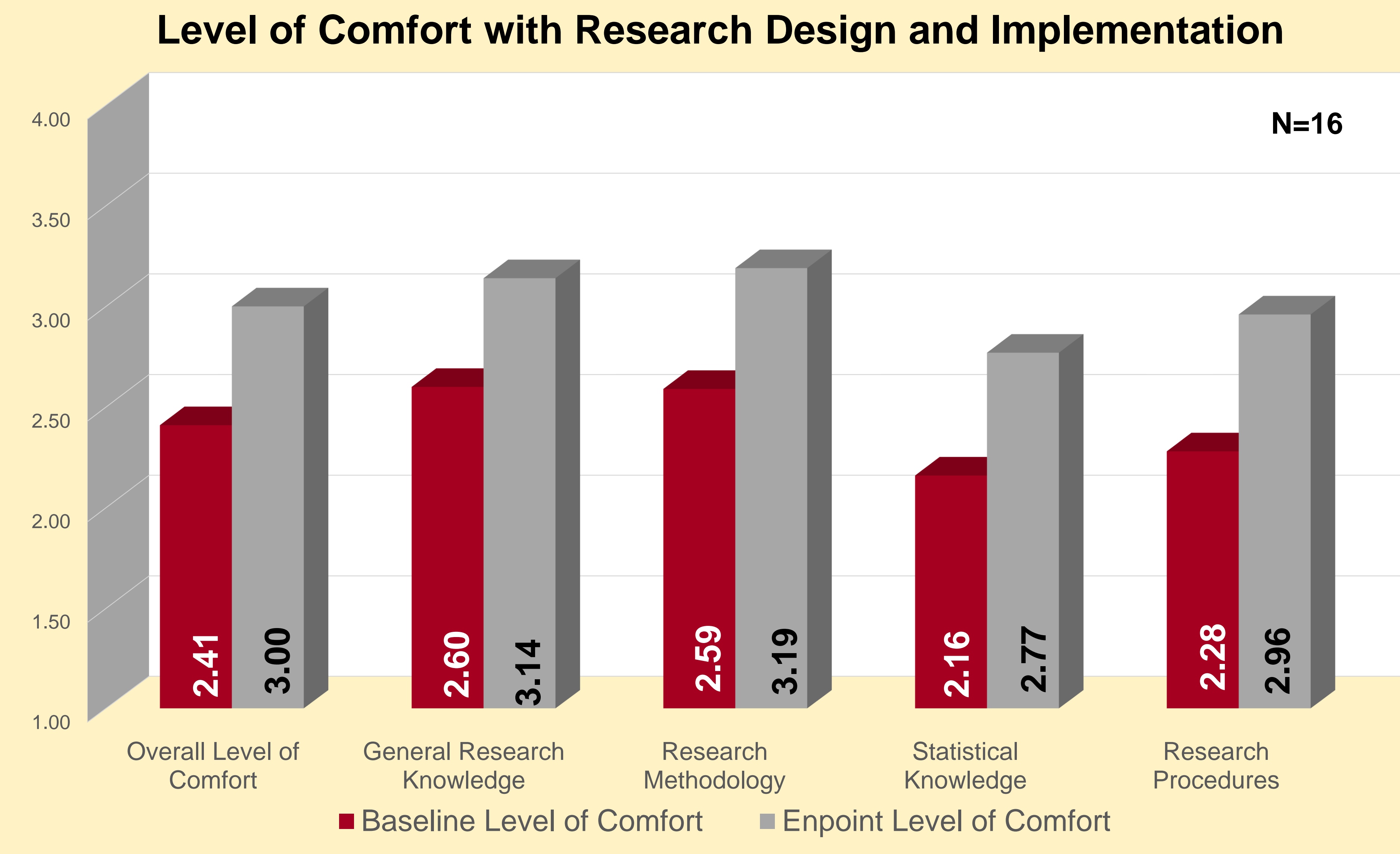
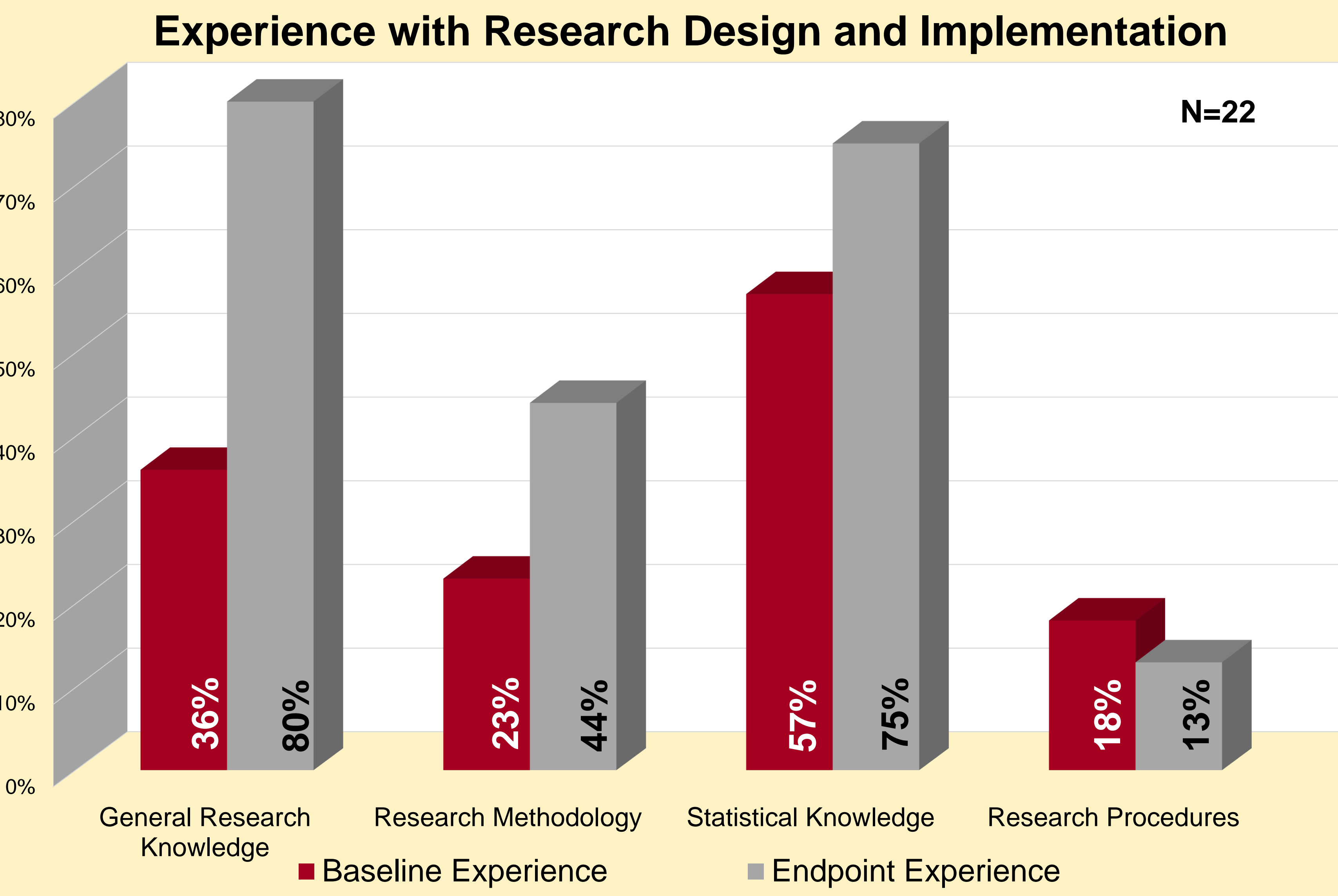
Objectives

- Determine baseline experience and level of comfort with research design and implementation among PGY1 residents in Arkansas
- Assess growth in level of comfort with research design and implementation among PGY1 residents in Arkansas after completing their PGY1 residency research projects
- Identify focus areas for a PGY1 residency Research Certificate Program

- In August of 2015 an email was sent to 27 current PGY1 resident in Arkansas asking for their participation in the study.
- Attached to the email was a link to a SurveyMonkey survey that gathered information on resident demographics, past research experience, and level of comfort with various aspects of research design and implementation. A coded identifier was developed for each respondent.
- Demographic information was gained by multiple choice and open response questions. Past research experience was assessed with yes/no questions asking if in the past 10 years the participants had completed a certain research activity. Level of comfort was assessed using a 4-point Likert scale with 1=very uncomfortable and 4=very comfortable.
- In April of 2016, the same survey from baseline was redistributed to the PGY1 resident pool of Arkansas.
- Results were collected from both surveys, data was linked based on coded identifier, and growth was assessed.

Results

Baseline Demographics			
Gender	23% Male	77% Female	
Age	46% Aged 20-25	50% Aged 26-30	4% Aged 26-30
Previous Formal Research Training	50% Had Formal Research Training	50% Did Not Have Formal Research Training	
Previous Formal Evidence Based Medicine (EBM) Training	77% Did Have Formal EBM Training	23% Did Not Have Formal EBM Training	
Year Graduating from Pharmacy School	100% Graduated in 2015		
Degree Possessed	46% Pharm.D. Only	50% Pharm.D. + B.S.	4% Pharm.D. + B.A.



For further research, data will be divided into residents who participated in a Pilot Research Certificate Program and those who did not. Focus groups will help to establish concentration areas for seminars associated with the program in the future.

Conclusion

- Residents grew in level of comfort with research design and implementation after completing their PGY1 residency research projects
- Focus areas for the research certificate program should include statistics and research procedures

Reference

American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. (2015). *Required competency areas, goals, and objectives for postgraduate year one (PGY1) pharmacy residencies*.