



Evaluation of Pharmacists' and Student Pharmacist Perspectives on the Development of a Women's Health Pharmacotherapy Course

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

Abby Krieb, Pharm.D. Candidate, Paige Hall, Pharm.D. Candidate, Deja Finley, Pharm.D.

BACKGROUND

- The United States has been facing troubling challenges with increasing maternal mortality rates, unlike other industrialized countries for the past two decades.
- These maternal health complications threaten both the mothers and their children, which could result in life-long health consequences.
- In addition, new laws are allowing pharmacists to have the opportunity to prescribe contraception.

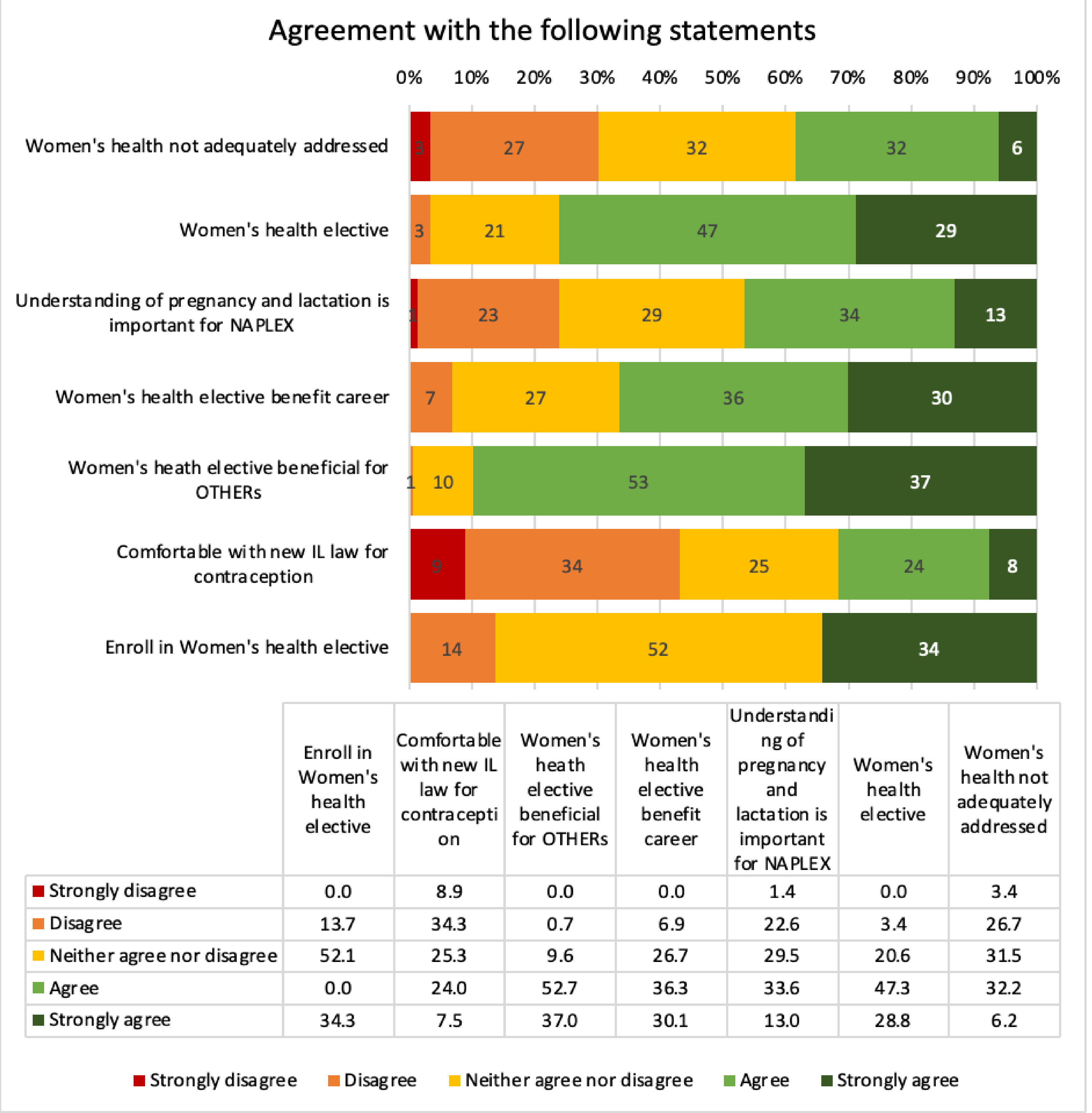
OBJECTIVE

- The study aims to explore the thoughts and perspectives of students and current pharmacists regarding topics covering women's health pharmacotherapy in pharmacy school, and if enhancement of the curriculum addressing women's health would be beneficial in practice.

METHODS

- An anonymous 11-question survey was distributed to third- and fourth-year pharmacy students, residents, alumni, and clinical faculty members at SIUE.

RESULTS



LIMITATIONS

- Out of the 188 original entries, 40 of these were encoded the as "9", 1 was coded "14", and 1 was missing for question #1. These entries were removed from the results for a total of 146 responses analyzed.

AUTHOR CONTACT

- Abby Krieb: akrieb@siue.edu
- Paige Hall: paihall@siue.edu

REFERENCES

Mager, N., Bright, D., & Shipman, A. J. (2022). Beyond contraception: Pharmacist roles to support maternal health. *Pharmacy* (Basel, Switzerland), 10(6), 163. <https://doi.org/10.3390/pharmacy10060163>

Joseph, K. S., Lisonkova, S., Boutin, A., et al. (2024). Maternal mortality in the United States: are the high and rising rates due to changes in obstetrical factors, maternal medical conditions, or maternal mortality surveillance?. *American journal of obstetrics and gynecology*, 230(4), 440.e1–440.e13. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajog.2023.12.038>

Blake, B. N., Bookbinder, S., Lazenby, G., et al. (2024). Knowledge of Oral Emergency Contraception Among Pharmacy Students. *Women's Health Reports* (New Rochelle, N.Y.), 5(1), 40–45. <https://doi.org/10.1089/whr.2023.0175>

- There was a significant association between agreement and relationship with SIUE for question #6: "A thorough understanding of pregnancy and lactation is important to successfully pass the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX)" (p<0.001).
- 27% of P3 or P4 students strongly agreed that the topic was important compared to only 8% of Alumni/Residents.
- There was a significant association between agreement and relationship with SIUE for question #9: "I am comfortable with the new Illinois law stating that pharmacists can now assess patients and prescribe multiple forms of contraception in the pharmacy" (p=0.02404).
- 16% of P3 and P4 students strongly agreed they were comfortable compared to only 5% if Alumni/Residents.
- No other questions showed a significant association between agreement and relationship with SIUE.

CONCLUSION

- Based on the data we collected, there should be an advancement of women's health pharmacotherapy curriculum provided at SIUE School of Pharmacy.
- Providing an elective course covering this topic would benefit pharmacists and student pharmacists in having a better understanding of how to care for this patient population.
- In the future, we hope to assess other schools of pharmacy across the United States to resolve this ongoing public health issue regarding women's health and maternal health.