

THOMAS O'NEIL, BA; GILLAN GRIFFITH, BA (MOD), MA; CAMILLE SCOT-SMITH, PHD, Medscape, LLC, New York NY, USA; THOMAS TÖLLE, MD, PHD, Munich, Germany

BACKGROUND

We sought to determine if online continuing medical education (CME) could improve the knowledge and confidence of rheumatologists and primary care physicians related to current management of chronic pain, including optimal clinical pain evaluation and available therapeutic options as well as potential future therapeutic interventions.



METHODS

PRE-ASSESSMENT



Rheumatologists (n=39)
Primary Care Physicians (PCPs) (n=174)



A 30-minute videotaped roundtable discussion among 4 experts with synchronized slides. Data collected November 8 – December 24, 2018

POST-ASSESSMENT

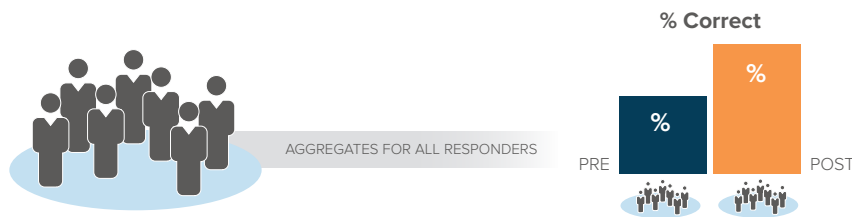


Rheumatologists (n=39)
Primary Care Physicians (PCPs) (n=174)

TWO ANALYSES OF THE PRE/POST SAMPLE

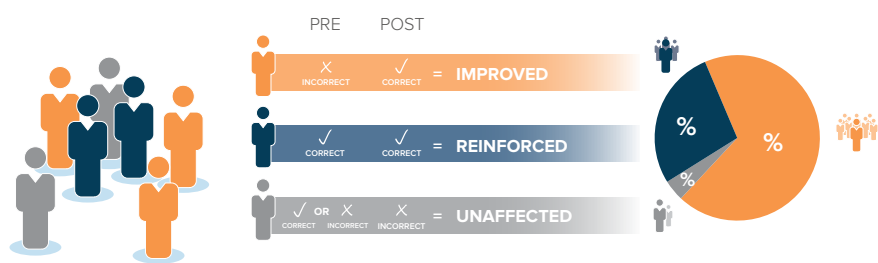
AGGREGATED LEARNING

Overall group tracked pre and post-education



LINKED LEARNING

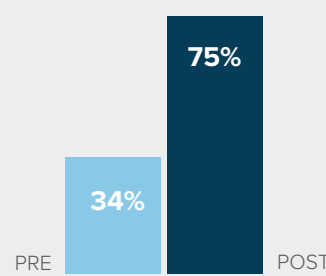
Each individual tracked pre and post-education



RESULTS

Rheumatologists (n=39)

AGGREGATED RESULTS

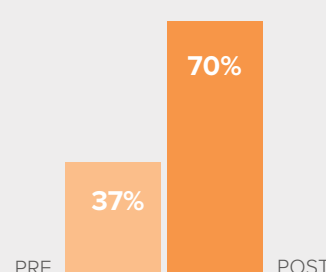


McNEMAR'S CHI-SQUARE TEST
P < .0001
SIGNIFICANCE (P < .05)

CRAMER'S V EFFECT SIZE: EXTENSIVE
0.412
MODEST (.0) EXTENSIVE (> .3)

PCPs (n=174)

AGGREGATED RESULTS



McNEMAR'S CHI-SQUARE TEST
P < .0001
SIGNIFICANCE (P < .05)

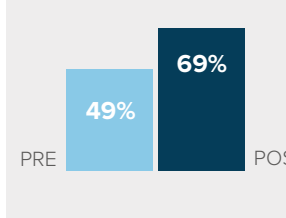
CRAMER'S V EFFECT SIZE: EXTENSIVE
0.328
MODEST (.0) EXTENSIVE (> .3)

QUESTION 1

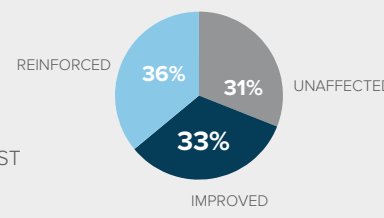
Increased knowledge of the need to take a detailed patient history, and use pain scales

Rheumatologists (n=39)

AGGREGATED RESULTS



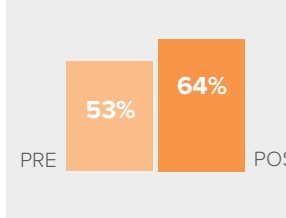
LINKED LEARNING RESULTS



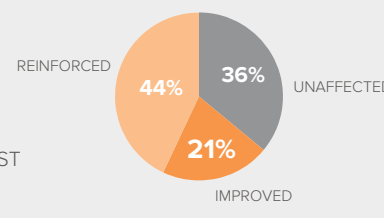
P = .0655; V = .208

PCPs (n=174)

AGGREGATED RESULTS



LINKED LEARNING RESULTS



P = .0294; V = .116

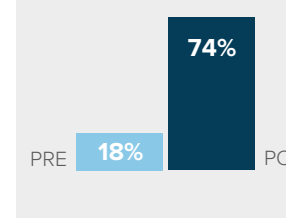
Question: A pain specialist is preparing a training course on chronic pain for primary care physicians. Which of the following statements is correct and can, therefore, be included in the training course materials?? (Failure to take a detailed patient history, to use pain scales, and to refer patients to specialist pain clinics are common barriers to effective management of chronic pain)

QUESTION 2

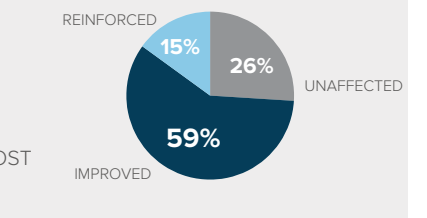
Increase in the proportion of learners understanding the rate of opioid use in Europe

Rheumatologists (n=39)

AGGREGATED RESULTS



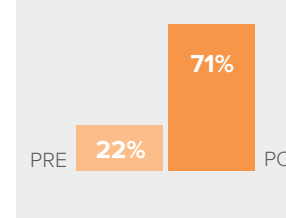
LINKED LEARNING RESULTS



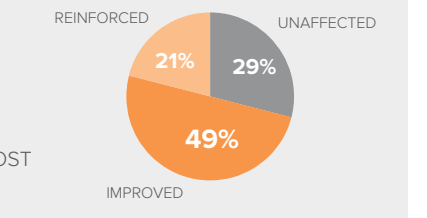
P < .0001; V = .565

PCPs (n=174)

AGGREGATED RESULTS



LINKED LEARNING RESULTS



P < .0001; V = .489

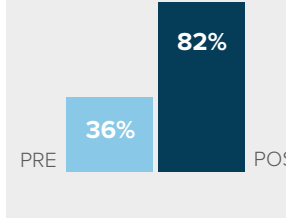
Question: Which of the following statements regarding opioid use in Europe is correct? (France has one of the lowest rates of strong opioid use in Europe, whereas the United Kingdom has one of the highest rates)

QUESTION 3

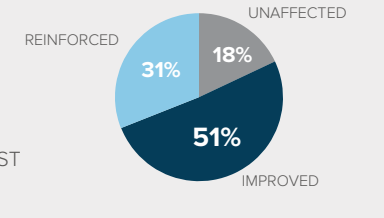
Improvement in knowledge of the mechanism and route of administration of novel anti-nerve growth inhibitors

Rheumatologists (n=39)

AGGREGATED RESULTS



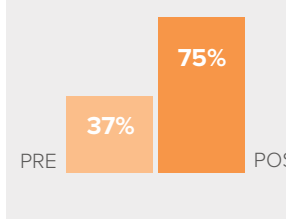
LINKED LEARNING RESULTS



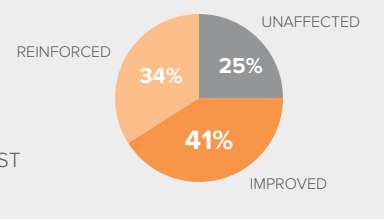
P < .0001; V = .469

PCPs (n=174)

AGGREGATED RESULTS



LINKED LEARNING RESULTS



P < .0001; V = .382

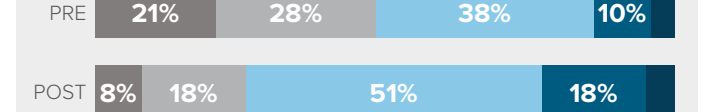
Question: Which of the following most accurately describes the site of action and route of administration of a novel class of anti-nerve growth factor therapies for managing chronic pain that is currently in development? (It acts on the peripheral nervous system (PNS) and is administered intravenously or subcutaneously)

SELF-EFFICACY QUESTION

Increase in clinicians' confidence in tailoring therapy for chronic pain according to each individual patient's needs

Rheumatologists (n=39)

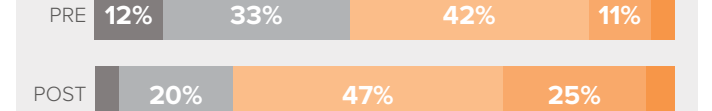
AGGREGATED RESULTS



Total average confidence shift 19.8%

PCPs (n=174)

AGGREGATED RESULTS



Total average confidence shift 18.7%

Question: How confident are you right now in tailoring therapy for chronic pain according to each individual patient's needs? (Select ranking from 1 [Not confident] to 5 [Very confident])

CONCLUSION

- Participation in a video-based online educational discussion between 4 experts was effective in improving the knowledge of rheumatologists and primary care physicians regarding the clinical management of patients with chronic pain
- Rheumatologists and primary care physicians reported substantial gains in confidence in their ability to individualize therapy for their patients with chronic pain

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For more information, contact Thomas O'Neil, Medscape, LLC, at thomaseoneil@gmail.com.

DISCLOSURES

Thomas R. Tölle, MD, PhD, has disclosed the following relevant financial relationships: Served as an advisor or consultant for: Almirall Hermal GmbH; Astellas Pharma, Inc.; Eli Lilly and Company; Grünenthal Group; Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation; Pfizer Inc.

Served as a speaker or a member of a speakers bureau for: Almirall Hermal GmbH; Astellas Pharma, Inc.; Eli Lilly and Company; Grünenthal Group; Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation; Pfizer Inc.; TAD Pharma GmbH

Thomas O'Neil, Gillian Griffith and Camille Scot-Smith have NO disclosures.



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