



Introduction

- All APNs in NJ work in joint protocol with physician counterpart; however, APN-As mandated to have joint protocol with MD-A (physician anesthesiologist)
- No evidence that care delivered solely by APN-A, without requirement of anesthesiologist oversight, results in increased complications or death
- Immediate focus of this project:
 - Analyze dental students and their perceptions as a sample population
 - Provide an exposition on the APN-A profession, as well as advanced airway assessments and skills

Background and Significance

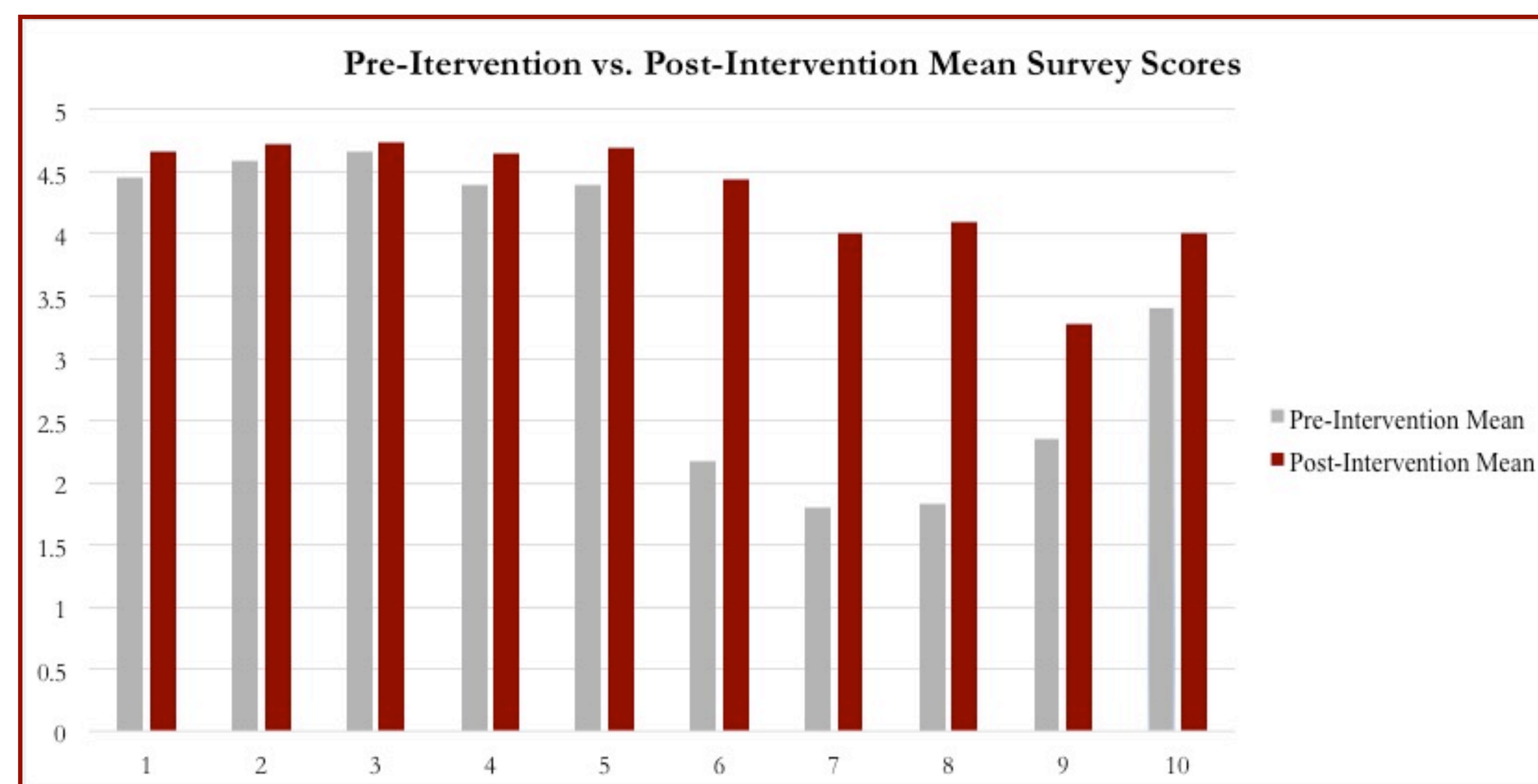
- N.J.A.C. 13:35 = APN-As must work under the supervision of a physician that is “privileged by a hospital or the Board to provide anesthesia” in dental offices
- NJANA petitioned courts twice to amend regulations that hinder APN-A scope of practice in NJ – both cases decided against the NJANA
- Rutgers School of Dental Medicine offers seven postgraduate dental education programs – dental anesthesia not offered

Review of Literature

Databases:	Search Terms:	Generated:
Ovid, CINAHL, PubMed, ERIC	“APN-A,” “interprofessional collaboration,” “dentistry”	2,698 articles – 21 eligible for inclusion

Methodology

- If educational intervention of dental students (i.e., PowerPoint presentation, training/education on advanced airway skills/assessments) will foster relationships with APN-As, translating to future interprofessional collaboration
 1. Pre-intervention survey
 2. Educational intervention
 3. Post-intervention survey
- Design: quantitative, correlation data
- Setting: Rutgers School of Dental Medicine
- Study Population: first year dental students presently enrolled at Rutgers School of Dental Medicine



Results

- Paired-samples t-test conducted
- Pre-intervention mean score = *neutral* position regarding knowledge of APN-As & interprofessional collaboration
- Post-intervention mean score = dental students are more aware of role/ responsibly of APN-A & likely to collaborate with APN-A in their future practice



Discussion

- Collaborating with dental students early in their healthcare career fosters positive interprofessional relationship
- Current scope of practice of APN-As in dental offices in NJ = not economically beneficial for dental offices to employ APN-A & MD-A
- When policies change in favor of independent APN-A practice in NJ, participating dental students will utilize APN-As in their professional practice → APN-As will provide cost-effective anesthesia care to patients in dental offices
- Newly acquired knowledge & understanding will strengthen dental students’ support of & confidence in APN-As

References

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