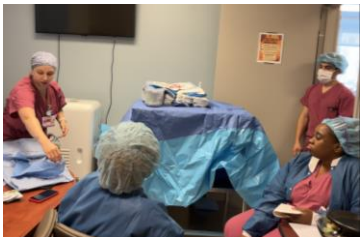


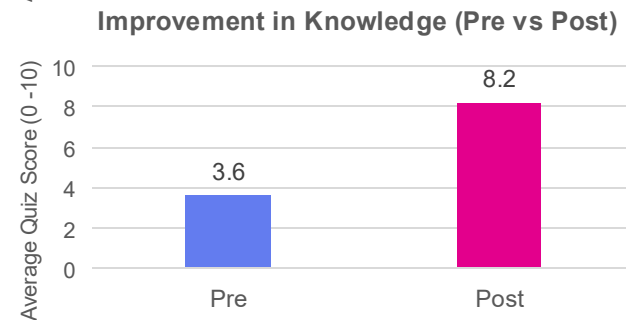
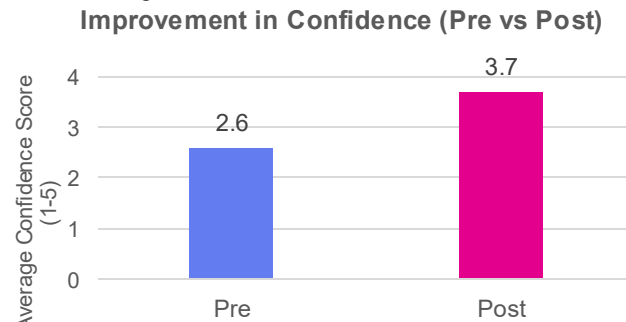
BACKGROUND

- **Burn mass casualty events** like wildfires or plane crashes require *fast and specialized* surgical care.
- Burn surgery uses specific supplies and equipment that many OR nurses may not be familiar with.
- If only a few staff are trained, it can *slow down* care during mass casualty incidents.
- **Non-specialized OR staff need burn-specific training** to close critical knowledge gaps before a mass casualty (Kirkman et al., 2024).
- **Hands-on training is an effective way** to reduce anxiety and boost confidence in disaster response (Lin & Conway, 2024).
- Purpose: To determine whether a burn skills lab can increase confidence and knowledge among non-specialized OR staff.
- PICO Question:
Will a burn skills lab improve confidence and knowledge level in non-specialized OR staff to assist in burn mass casualty events?



METHODS

- A continuing *quality improvement* project.
- Burn skills labs with hands-on training were conducted in OR with nurses and surgical techs who do not routinely assist in burn surgeries (n=19).
- The **skills lab** covered *burn surgery basics, including instruments, equipment, workflow, and safety considerations*.
- Pre-session survey (18 questions using 5-point Likert scale) and quiz (10 multiple choice questions) assessed baseline confidence and knowledge.
- Post-session survey and quiz were completed two weeks after the labs.
- Results were reviewed to identify changes in confidence and knowledge levels.



RESULTS

- **Confidence:** Survey scores *increased by 42%*.
- **Knowledge:** Quiz scores *increased by 128%*.
- These findings support the PICO question: **Burn skills lab improved staff preparedness in non-burn OR staff.**

DISCUSSION

- Evidence shows **cross-training** improves perioperative preparedness, and our results align with these findings (Lee et al., 2024).
- **Strengths:**
 - *Enhanced teamwork and communication* among OR staff.
 - Nurses reported *increased confidence after a single skills lab session*.
- **Limitation:**
 - Outcomes included a *self-reported* survey and may be subject to *response bias*.
 - *Knowledge retention* over time was not assessed and skills may decline without reinforcement.
- **Implication:**
 - *Annual* burn skills lab sessions are recommended.

REFERENCES



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