

## BACKGROUND

- Pharmacy students learn the curriculum in the first 3 years of pharmacy school, with the 4<sup>th</sup> year being completely experiential
- Didactic learning instills the knowledge into the students, but doesn't prepare them for the potentially distressing experiences of an APPE rotation
- There is very limited data in this area done on pharmacy students and the impact these distressing events could have on their ability to perform their duties as a future pharmacist effectively

## OBJECTIVE

- To collect and evaluate data on distressing events to determine how problematic distressing experiences on APPE rotations are for pharmacy students
- To see that if a situation arises that causes distress in a student, that there is an adequate outlet for them to address it

## METHODS

### Study Design

- Observational Cross-sectional Survey

### Study Population

- Inclusion Criteria:
  - P4 student participating in APPE rotations
  - Attending either SIUE or UMKC
- Exclusion Criteria:
  - Surveys that were started but failed to complete the main question regarding distressing events were excluded from final analysis
- No other inclusion or exclusion criteria were used

### Survey

- Independently developed
- Qualitative and Quantitative
- No prior validated instrument was used in data collection
- Not used as a diagnostic tool
  - Some questions use language from the DSM-V criteria for PTSD and Anxiety diagnosis
- Distribution was done via mass email
  - Contained the goal of the survey as well as the served as the consent for the study, although it was clearly voluntary
  - Sent according to a semester system
    - Accommodated both school schedules
- Collected Demographic Information
  - Gender, age, ethnicity
- Collected data regarding the "Distressing Events"
  - Described the event, Impact on wellbeing, Feelings/Recollections (optional), Preceptor involvement

## RESULTS

- A total of 73 survey results were documented
  - 7 of those surveys did not finish or fill out the main question, and therefore omitted from final analysis
  - 66 surveys used in final analysis
    - 42/66 (63.3%) reported experiencing at least one distressing event
    - 12 participants reported more than one event
    - A total of 59 events were reported

Table 1: Demographic Information

Variable	Number of Respondents (%) Total = 66	Number of Respondents with at least one reported event (%) Total = 42
<b>Gender</b>		
Female	47 (71)	32 (76.2)
Male	19 (29)	10 (23.8)
<b>Age</b>		
20-25	45 (68)	29 (69)
26-30	17 (26)	11 (26.2)
31-35	3 (5)	1 (2.4)
>35	1 (2)	1 (2.4)
<b>Ethnicity</b>		
White	57 (86)	37 (88)
African American or Black	3 (5)	2 (4.7)
Asian	8 (12)	6 (14.3)
Hispanic or Latino	3 (5)	1 (2.3)
<b>School of Pharmacy</b>		
SIUE	28 (42)	14 (33.3)
UMKC	38 (58)	28 (66.7)

Table 2: Identifying the Type of Distressing Event and What Type of Rotation it Happened On

Did The Preceptor Address It?		
Yes		15
No		19
If Yes, Was It Helpful?		
No		3
Somewhat		3
Yes		9
How Comfortable Were You Talking About It With Your Preceptor?		
Very Comfortable		7
Somewhat Comfortable		9
Somewhat Uncomfortable		7
Very Uncomfortable		11

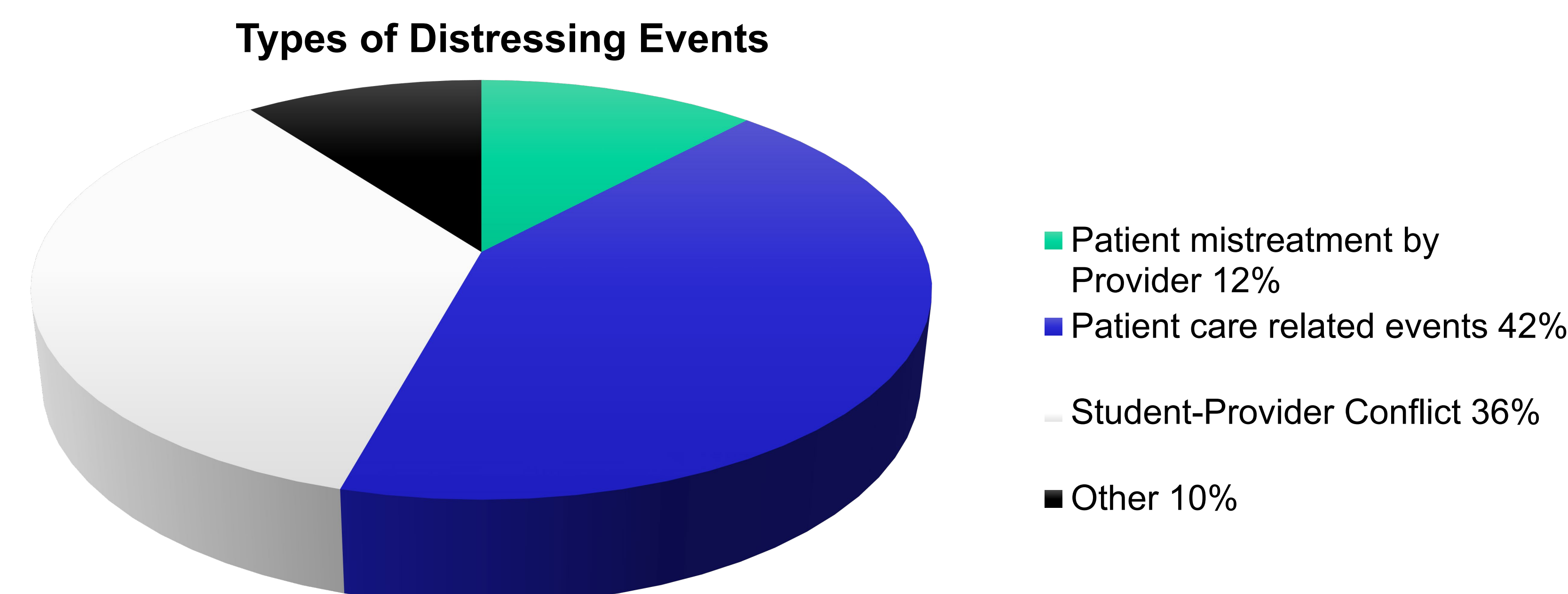


Figure 1: Identifying the type of distressing events that were reported by the participants

## RESULTS

Table 3: Mean Impact of Distressing Events on Student

Type of Event	Mean Impact on Patient Care	Mean impact on ability to learn	Mean impact on anxious thoughts	Mean impact on depressive thoughts	
Other	4	6.6	7	7	6.15
Patient Mistreatment by Provider	6.8	3.83	6.67	4.33	5.40
Patient Care related	3.55	4.81	5.85	3.94	4.53
Student-Provider conflict	4.57	6.33	7.6	5.28	5.94
	4.73	5.39	6.78	5.13	Averages

Rotation Types Where Events Occurred

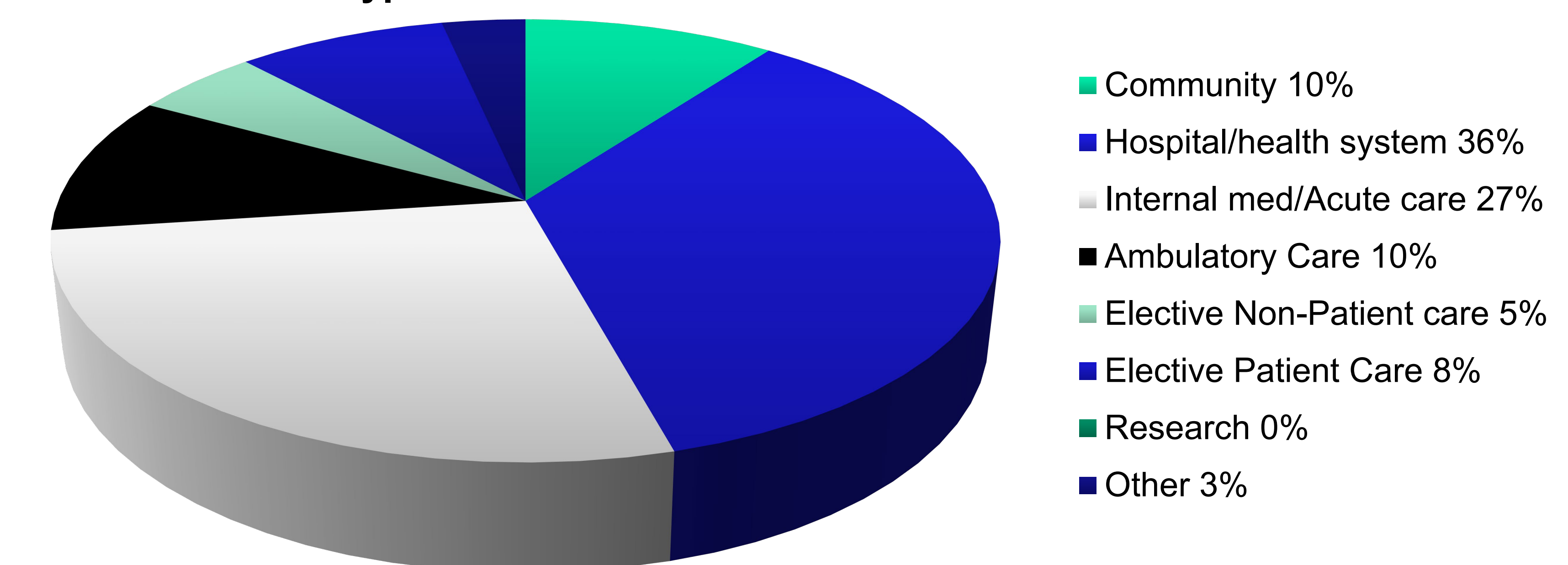


Figure 2: Identifying the types of rotations that the events occurred on

## DISCUSSION

### Limitations

- Experiences are subjective and similar events may have not been reported throughout rotation sites
- Recall bias
- Non-Response bias

### Demographics

- Supports the notion that distressing events does not change based on discrimination by age, gender, or ethnicity

### Distressing events

- The results from this study are very comparable to to previously published literature done on a population of medical students while on their experiential learning
- A majority of pharmacy students reported having these events in a patient care centered setting
- Being able to have comfortable interactions with the preceptor was seen to be beneficial to students

## CONCLUSION

- Distressing events is a concern among Pharmacy students on APPE rotations
- Preceptors addressing the event usually have positive impacts on the students