

# Medical Student Perceptions Concerning Interprofessional Education: Do They Change Over Time?

David W. Musick, PhD, David B. Trinkle, MD, Richard C. Vari, PhD, R. Brock Mutcherson, PhD  
Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine

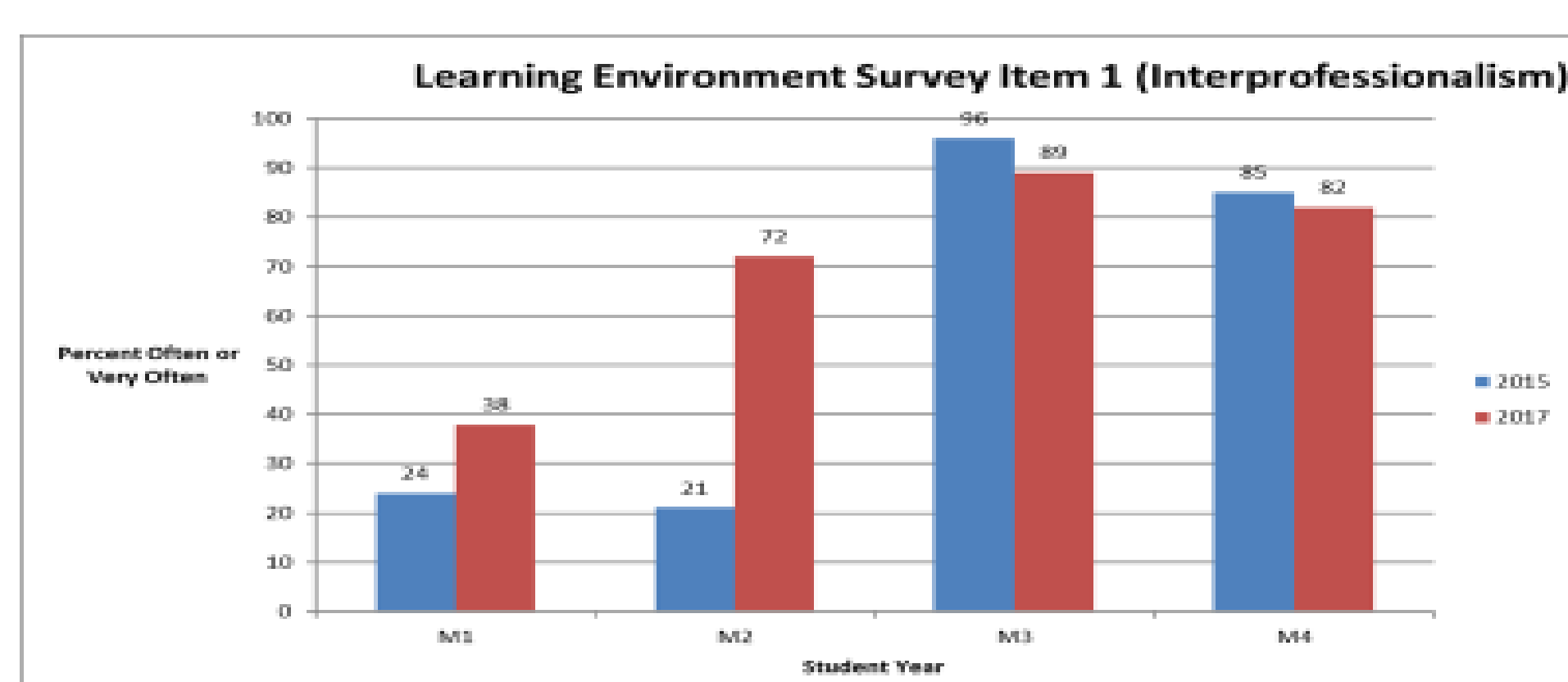
## Background

- Interprofessional education (IPE) is a critical component of a team approach to patient care
- Most medical schools provide IPE content early in the curriculum, often with mixed reception by students
- **Hypothesis:** medical student perceptions of the value of IPE become more positive over time, i.e., as they progress through training and gain more clinical experience

## Methods

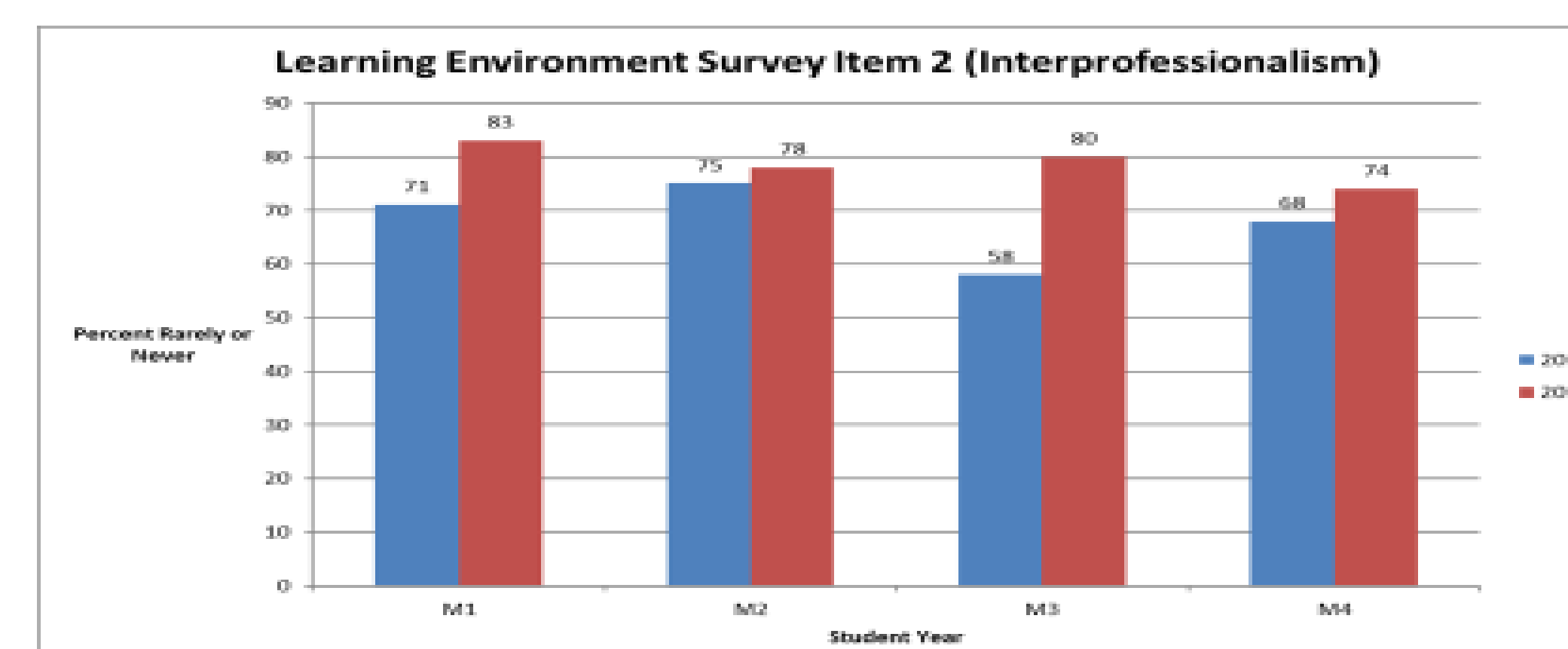
- We examined a variety of data sources in a longitudinal fashion, with emphasis on the experience of a single class (Class of 2017) across all four years
- **Data sources included:**
  - End of course/rotation feedback
  - Learning environment surveys
  - M3 clerkship assessment of students
  - Residency program director surveys
  - Alumni surveys
  - LCME student surveys

## Results



Working on a team that includes physician assistant students and M1/M2 nursing students has a positive impact on my learning.

Working on a clinical care team including pharmacists, nurses, medical M3/M4 students, and residents has a positive impact on my learning.



I have been part of a team at VTC in which the team dynamics negatively impacted the outcome or experience.

### AAMC Graduation Survey Data

I have the communication skills necessary to interact with patients and health professionals

Year	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
2017	0	0	10.8	29.7	59.5
2016	0	0	0	23.7	76.3
2015	0	0	3.0	21.2	75.8
2014	0	0	0	33.3	66.7

### Learning Environment Survey Class of 2017 as M2 Students and M4 Students

	N	Mean (SD)	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Very Often
Working on a team that includes physician assistant students and nursing students has a positive impact on my learning.	34	2.88 (1.02)	12%	24%	44%	15%	5%
Working on a clinical care team including pharmacists, nurses, medical students, and residents has a positive impact on my learning.	39	4.2 (0.88)	3%	0%	15%	41%	41%

### Class of 2017 - Residency Program Director Survey

Item	Mean Rating	# of Ratings	Response Rate
Interaction with other health professionals	4.4	25	60%
Team building and leadership skills	4.1	25	60%
Utilization of other health professionals	4.2	25	60%

## Summary

**Strong trend whereby all IPE related data appears to show favorable perceptions over time**

## References

Visser CLF et al. Perceptions of residents, medical and nursing students about interprofessional education. BMC Medical Education 2017; 17 (1): 77

## Discussion

- To evaluate the impact of IPE, it is likely necessary to examine longitudinal data from a variety of sources
- Medical student perceptions of IPE may improve with additional clinical experience, but more research is needed to identify key perceptions