

Does transgender-focused education improve primary care clinician knowledge and attitudes?

Improving transgender and gender-diverse barriers to primary care

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Background

- ~ 2 million transgender & gender diverse (TGD) people live in the U.S.
- 24% of TGD people report having educated their clinician about their own health.
- Over 33% of TGD patients report a negative healthcare experience in the past year that makes them less likely to seek future healthcare.

Problem Statement

- The TGD population experience health, socioeconomic, and psychosocial disparities such as domestic violence, HIV, lack of healthcare coverage, and suicide at higher rates than their cisgender counterparts.
- Access to gender-affirming primary care, including hormone therapy, improve TGD health outcomes.
- Lack of PCP education and implicit/explicit biases are frequent barriers to healthcare access that is timely, appropriate, and patient-centered.**

Objectives

- Explore effectiveness of PCP cultural and clinical curriculums on improving PCP knowledge.
- Determine the effect of cultural/clinical education on PCP attitudes.
- Describe the effectiveness of cultural/clinical education on PCP willingness to provide gender-affirming primary care.

Results and Conclusion

Demographic Characteristics (n=21)			
		SD= Standard Deviation	
Age, mean (SD)	Race, n (%)		
Male	2 (9.5)	African American or Black	4 (19.0)
Female	19 (90.5)	Asian	5 (23.8)
Gender Identity, n (%)	Sexual Orientation, n (%)		
Cisgender	21 (100)	Caucasian or White	12 (57.1)
Profession, n (%)	Straight		
Physician (i.e. MD, DO)	12 (57.1)	Lesbian or Gay	2 (9.5)
Nurse Practitioner	9 (42.9)	Bisexual	1 (4.8)
Years in Practice, n (%)			
0-5 years	6 (28.6)	16-20 years	2 (9.5)
6-10 years	2 (9.5)	21-25 years	2 (9.56)
11-15 years	6 (28.6)	26-30 years	3 (14.3)

Aim	Source	Outcome Measurement	Instrument
1	Clinician	Cultural Knowledge	Created cultural competency score [range 0-4]
2	Clinician	Clinical knowledge	Created clinical competency score [range 0-20]
3	Clinician	Transphobia	Modified Transphobia score [range 0-34]
4	Clinician	Willingness to provide gender-affirming primary care	Likert scale of willingness [range 1-7]

Increased PCP comfort and confidence

Clinical & cultural module

Cultural education module

Clinical education module

Willingness to provide gender-affirming primary care

Increased PCP comfort and confidence

Statistically significant decrease in transphobia

Statistically significant increase in clinical knowledge

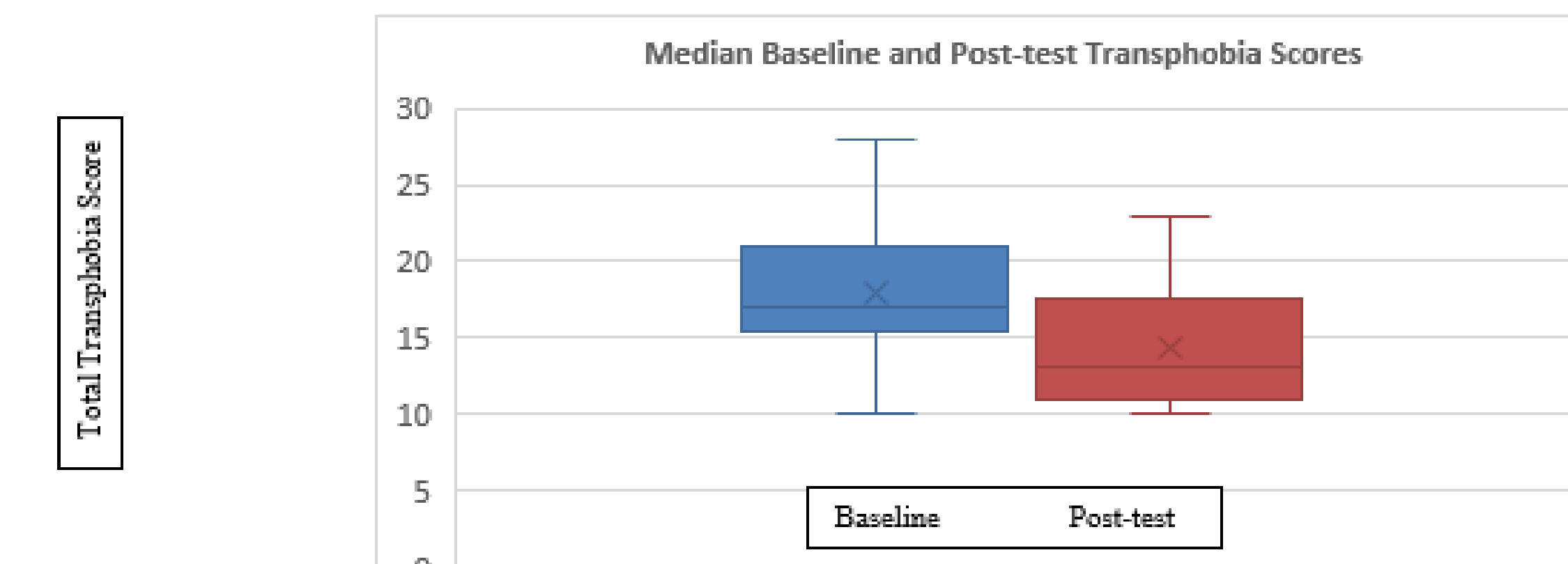


Fig. 2. Changes in total transphobia score for cultural arm (n=9)

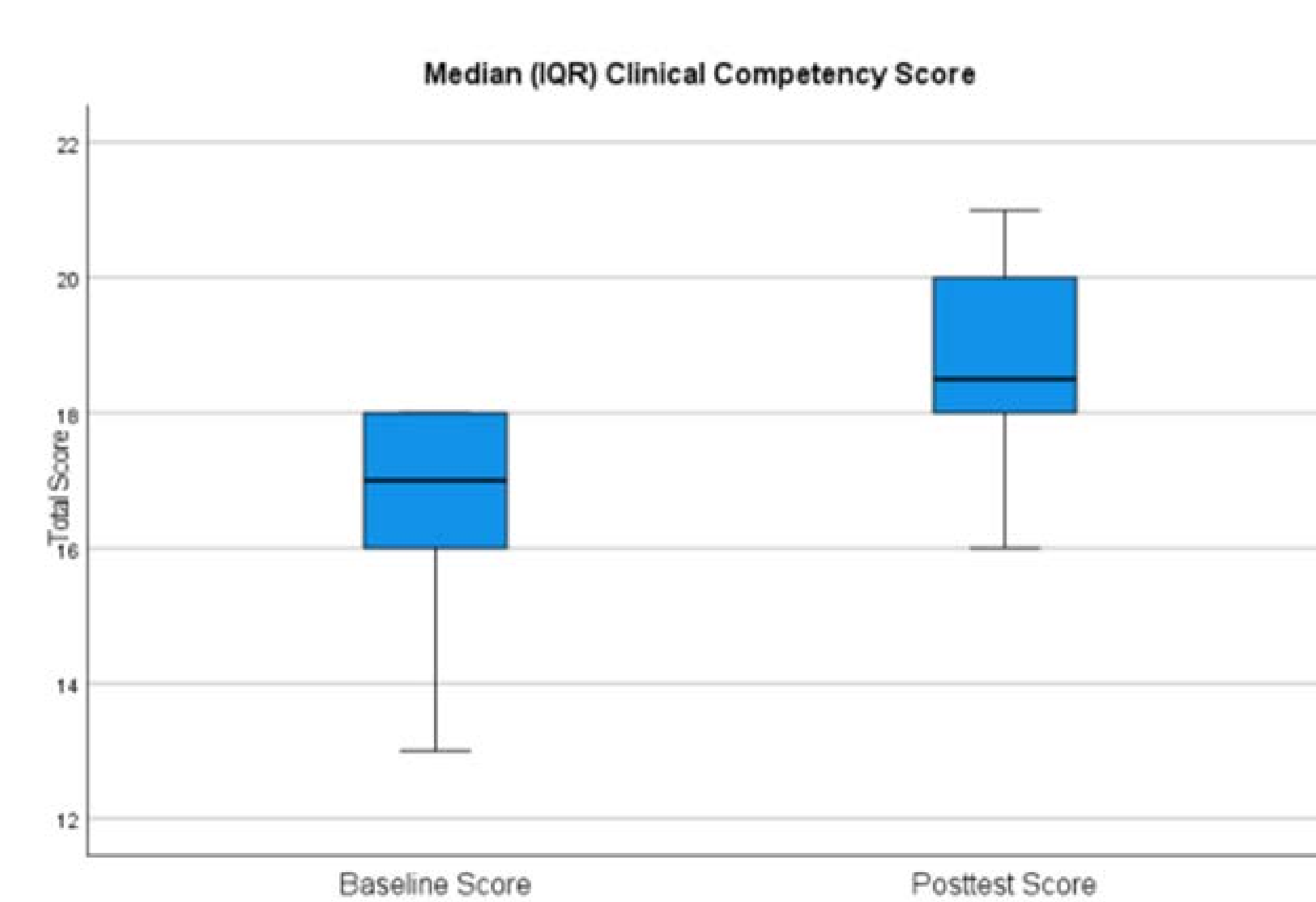


Fig. 1. Baseline and post-test total clinical competency scores for clinical intervention arm (n=12)

Aims

- Determine the effect of a cultural competency module on cultural/clinical knowledge and transphobia scores.
- Determine the effect of a clinical competency module on clinical/cultural knowledge and transphobia scores.
- Determine the effect of clinical/cultural intervention on overall willingness to provide gender affirming primary care.

Methods

- Methods:** Pretest/posttest intervention design
- Participants:** ~306 email invitations to PCPs.
- Data Collection:** Qualtrics hosted baseline/post-intervention assessment
- Analysis:** Descriptive statistics and Wilcoxon Signed Rank

Level of Significance: 95%

Discussion

- Improving TGD takes more than just improving knowledge
- Diversity training at institutions may not be robust enough to change behaviors and patterns.
- Look at exploring multimodal approaches (e.g., vignettes)
- Future research recommended at the medical training level