

Student Perception of Exam Feedback

Background:

Feedback to students on assessments and overall learning is an essential piece of education. Previous studies have deemed feedback as a fundamental component of the educational experience and students value feedback and are aware of its importance to improved educational outcomes. The purpose of this study is to evaluate students' perception of exam feedback, in particularly feedback produced from ExamSoft's Strength and Opportunity (S&O) reports at Southern Illinois University of Edwardsville School of Pharmacy (SIUE SOP).

Methods:

To determine student's perception on exam and assessment feedback, an online survey was conducted among second through fourth year students currently enrolled in SIUE SOP. The survey consisted of 27 questions varying from multiple choice, Likert-scale, and open-ended responses. The survey was generated, distributed, and recorded via Qualtrics.

Results:

The survey was distributed to 223 participants with 94 responses, resulting in a 42% response rate. Responses include incomplete surveys. The Likert-scale questions resulted in 34.5% "strongly agree," 33.4% "agree," 21.4% "neutral," 0.59% "disagree," and 0.48% "strongly disagree." (Table 1) Perceived usefulness of S&O reports: nearly 90% responded S&O reports were at least "moderately useful." Students perceived effectiveness of the S&O reports: 64% have positive influence on future exam scores and approximately 89% reported impact their study habits.

Conclusion:

Student's value exam feedback and agree exam feedback influences and enhances student performance on overall education and performance on future exams. Students at SIUE SOP feel feedback is inadequate. If feedback is given in a timely manner, detail oriented, and easy to understand, students are more likely to use the feedback. The S&O reports may provide useful, effective, and sufficient feedback if tailored to the right content and include more details. Studies have shown increased use and effectiveness of S&O reports after students given education on S&O reports.