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Background

Current State

• Pre-clinical Prosthodontics (PCP) curriculum falls short of adequately preparing students due to lack of patient contact

Gap

• A single Indian study has investigated the impact of Early Clinical Exposure (ECE) on performance of dental students in the subject of PCP using videos

Future State

• Introduction of ECE in the form of clinical demonstrations on complete denture patients can help to mitigate existing problem

Aim

To assess the impact of introduction of ECE on knowledge and understanding of second year dental students in the subject of PCP

Objectives

1. To introduce ECE in the subject of PCP in second year
2. To assess the impact of ECE on the knowledge and understanding of students
3. To explore perception of students and faculty towards the ECE program

Methodology

Prospective Non-randomized Interventional Study among Second Year Dental Students

- Preparation of Study tools and Informed Consent Document
- Institutional Ethics Committee Approval
- Faculty and Student sensitization

- Pilot study (n=8)
- Recruitment of patients (n=5) and Study Participants (n=50)
- Pre-MCQ test (validated MCQs after item analysis)

Introduction of Early Clinical Exposure (ECE):
Demonstration of complete denture steps of border molding and jaw relation to each of the five student groups on a patient

- Post-MCQ test: One week after the completion ECE
- Students' Perception: Survey questionnaire
- Faculty Perception (n=2): In-depth interviews

Results

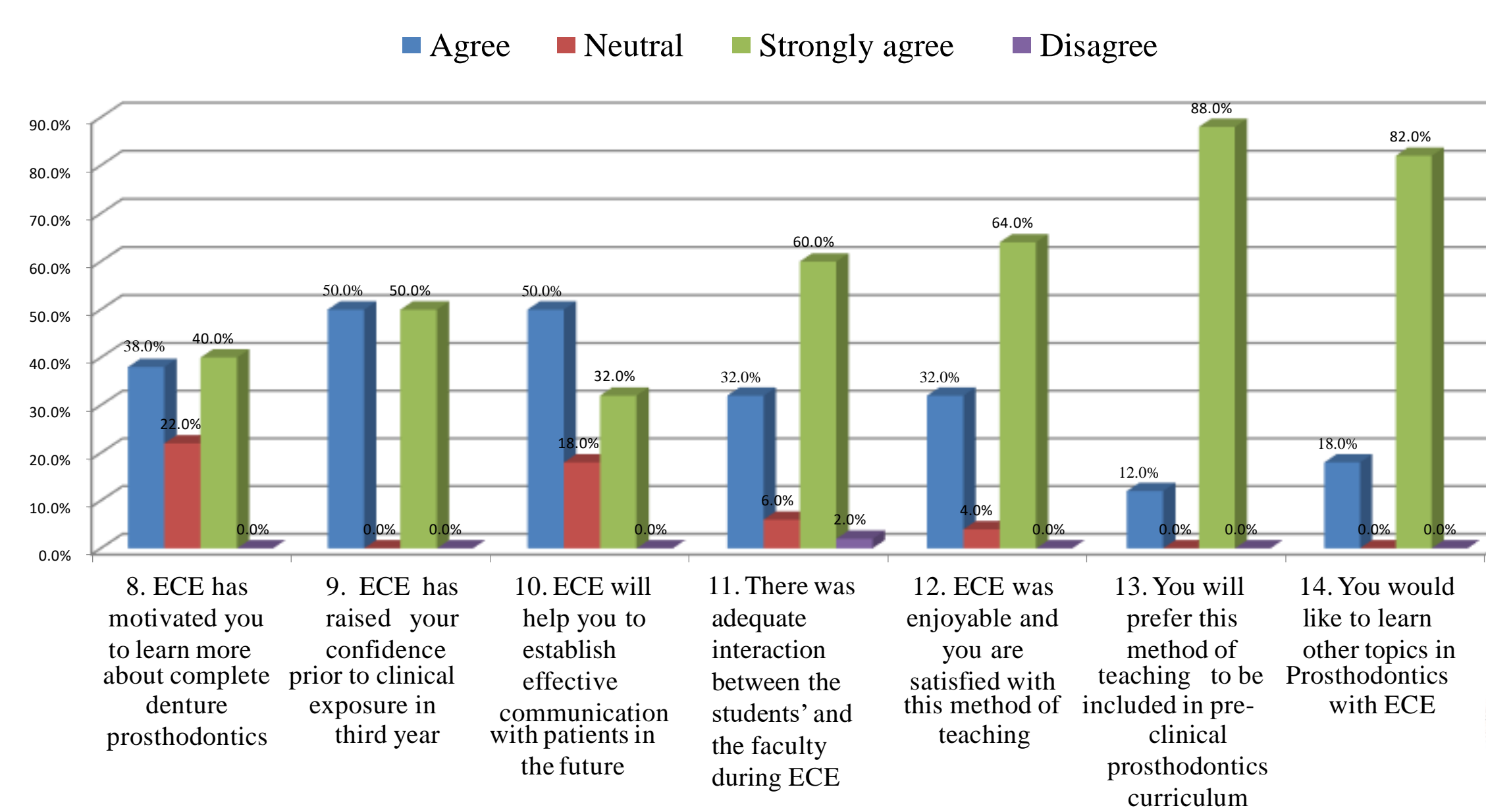
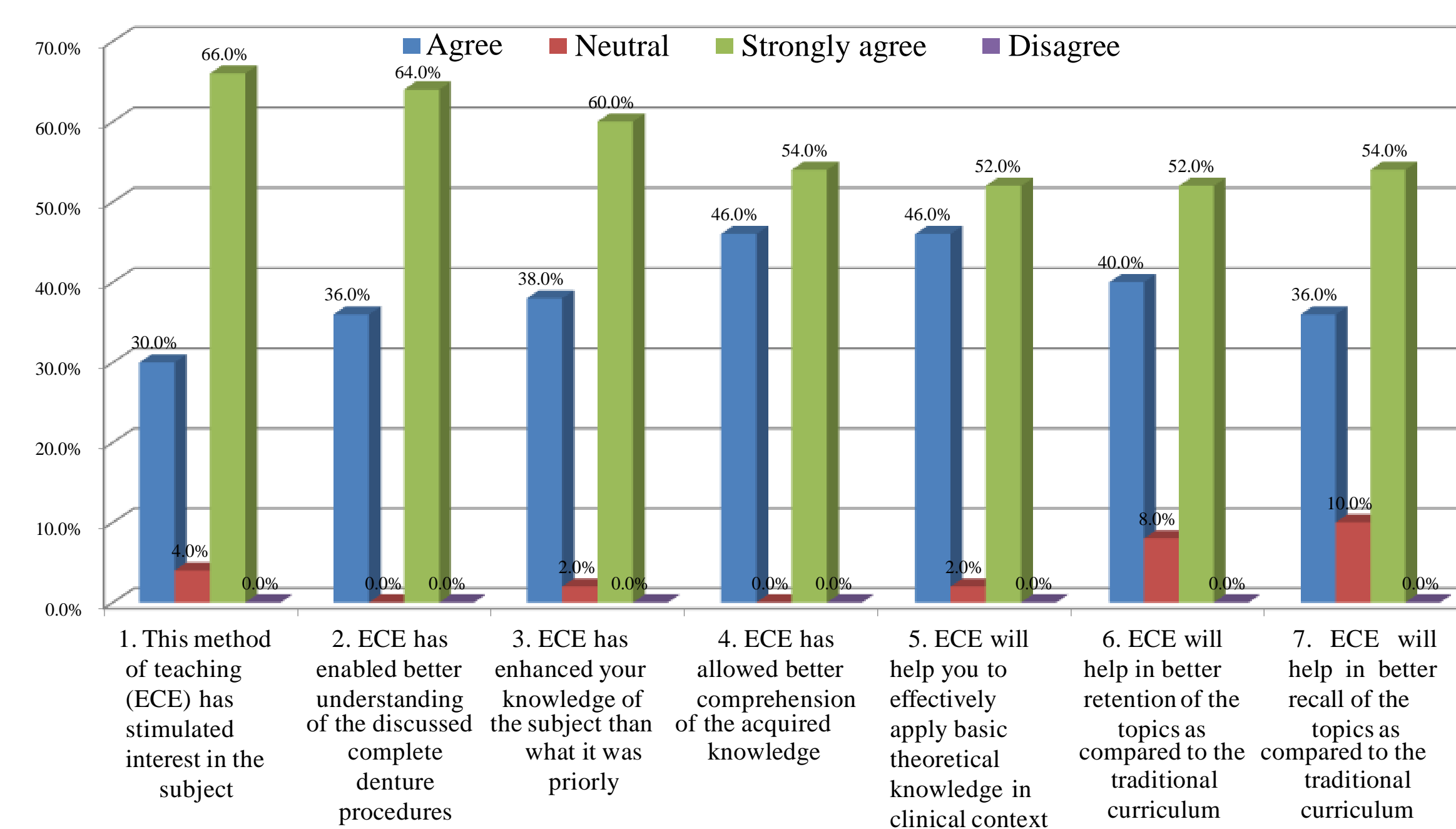
Comparison of pre- and post-MCQ test mean scores

		Mean Score	Std. Deviation	95% Confidence Interval		p-value* (<0.05)
				Lower	Upper	
Over-all	Pre-test	42.96	11.00	-13.17	-9.08	0.001*
	Post-test	54.08	10.09			
Final impression (FI)	Pre-test	22.88	6.85	-7.14	-4.14	0.001*
	Post-test	28.52	6.00			
Jaw relation (JR)	Pre-test	20.08	5.48	-6.74	-4.22	0.001*
	Post-test	25.56	5.44			

The mean over-all, FI and JR score was compared between pre and post-test using paired t-test

*The mean over-all, FI and JR score increased significantly from pre to post-test.

Students' perception towards ECE



Pre-MCQ test



Post-MCQ test



Faculty perception Thematic analysis

Faculty satisfied with ECE experience

Beneficial for students and patients

Faculty shortage

Time consuming

Increased faculty-student interaction

Use of video-assisted T-L

ECE session



Videos of ECE sessions



Conclusion

ECE was effective in improving knowledge and understanding of complete denture clinical procedures among second year dental students. Overall, both the students and faculty were satisfied with the experience.

Take home message

ECE can be integrated in the traditional PCP curriculum with appropriate time and manpower allocation.

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References

1. Shigli K, Nayak SS, Sankeshwari B, Fulari D, Chopade S, Wadgave U, Jirge V, Murugaboopathy V. Effectiveness of an Early Clinical Exposure Module on the Performance of Second Year Dental Students - A Randomized Controlled Study. Ann Med Health Sci Res. 2017;7:236-241.