

Theory to Practice: The impact of Emergency Medicine electives on medical students



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Introduction

- The Electives Module in medical education offers students a one-month rotation, split between basic sciences and clinical settings, to explore and develop skills in areas of interest.
- Electives enhance clinical and communication skills, promoting transformative learning through hands-on experience.
- This study examines Emergency Medicine Electives, where students gain practical skills in emergency care, including cardiovascular support and trauma management.
- Given limited data on these electives in India, this research assesses their effectiveness in enhancing student knowledge and perceptions.

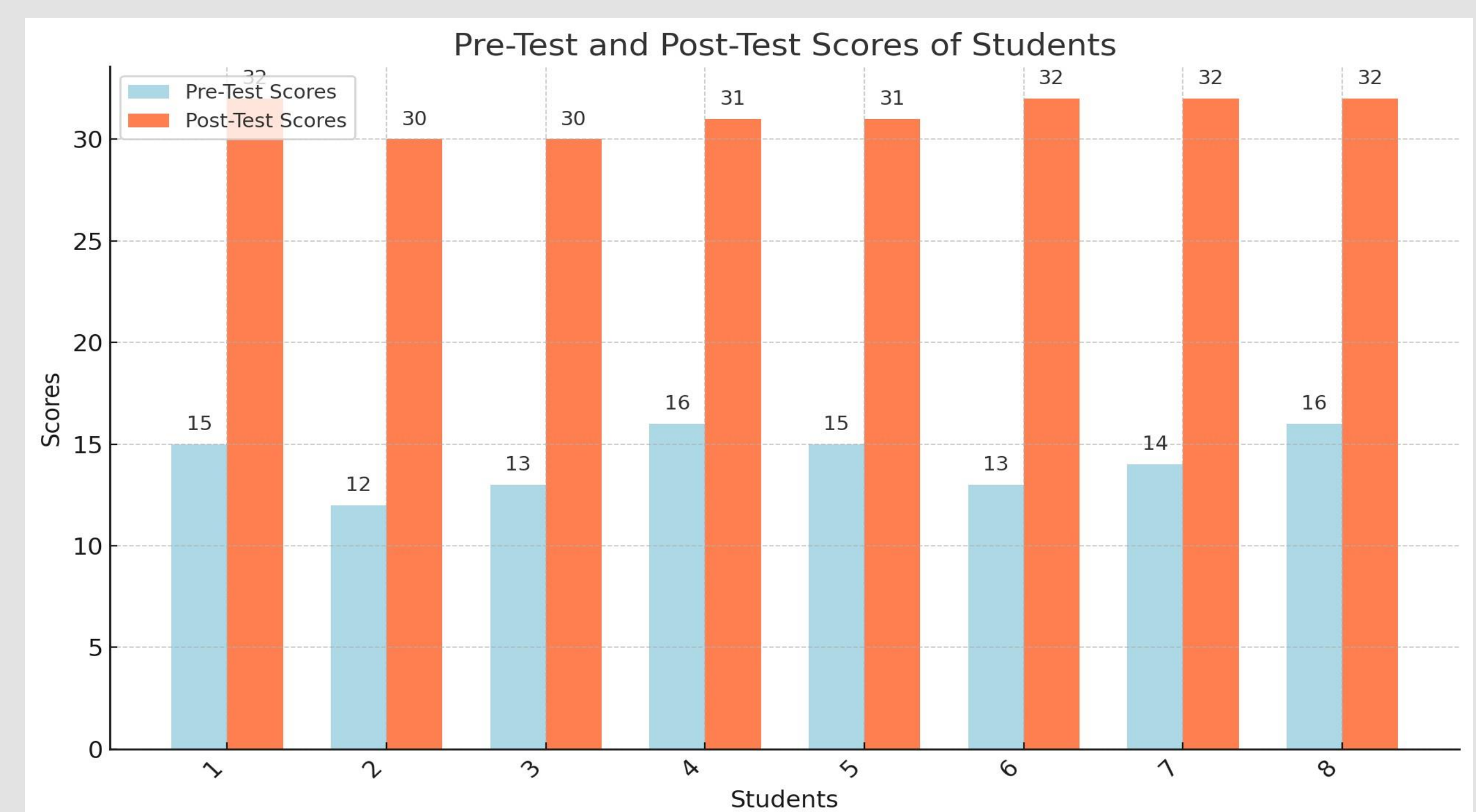


Methodology

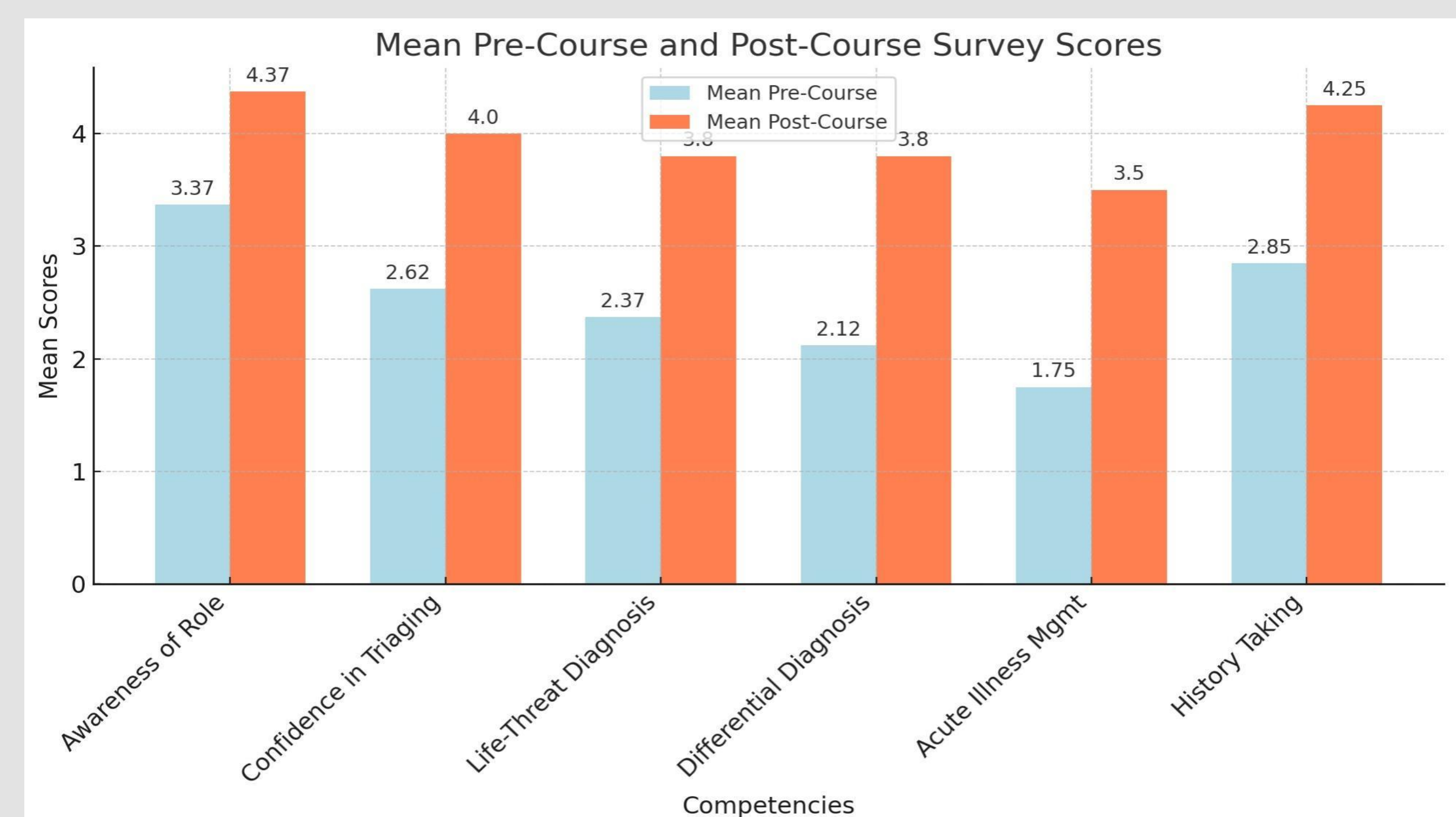
This study followed the ADDIE instructional model to develop and implement an Emergency Medicine Elective.

1. Analysis: A faculty workshop prepared instructors to design the elective.
2. Design: Faculty collaboratively developed a curriculum with balanced clinical and didactic components, reviewed by the Electives Committee.
3. Development: Orientation sessions, pre-/post-tests, skills labs (airway management, trauma care, ECGs), and daily student reflections were incorporated.
4. Implementation: Eight students, chosen by merit, completed the elective in 2023-2024 with full participation in clinical and skill sessions.
5. Evaluation: Using Kirkpatrick's model, Levels 1 (student reaction) and 2 (learning outcomes) were assessed through surveys and tests. Future tracking will assess behavioral impact (Level 3) and community influence (Level 4).

Results



The scores reflect students' self-confidence and knowledge across various competencies, including patient triaging, recognizing life-threatening conditions, and clinical management.



Each pair of bars (one for pre-test and one for post-test) shows the progress made by each student.

Conclusion

A structured two-week Elective posting in Emergency Medicine has a positive impression on student's perception regarding the specialty and has a remarkable advancement in knowledge and core skills of Emergency medicine competencies.

