

The Impact of COVID-19 on PA Education and Key Considerations for Health Workforce Policy

Agenda

- PAEA Background
- COVID-19 Rapid Response Report Data
 - Impact on Didactic/Clinical Education
 - Long-Term Implications/Impact on Students
- Policy Recommendations



PAEA

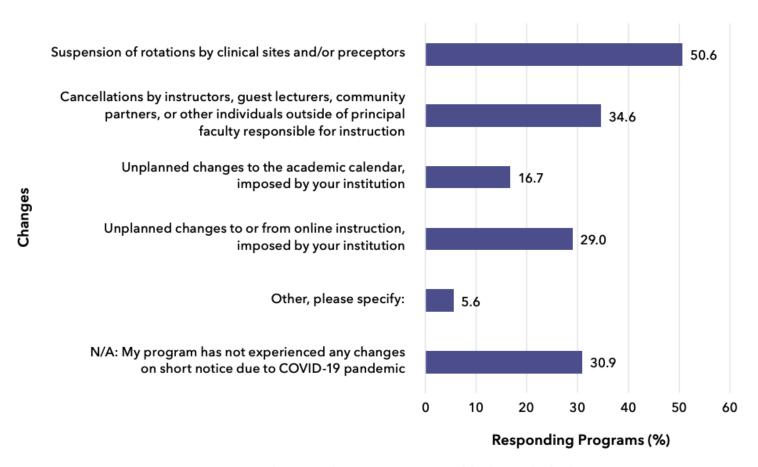
- Only national organization representing 300 accredited PA education programs in the U.S.
- Provides admissions, assessment, faculty development, research, and policy services
- Issued a series of Rapid Response Reports in 2020 and 2021 to illustrate the impact of COVID-19 on PA programs, faculty, and students



Impact on Didactic/Clinical Education



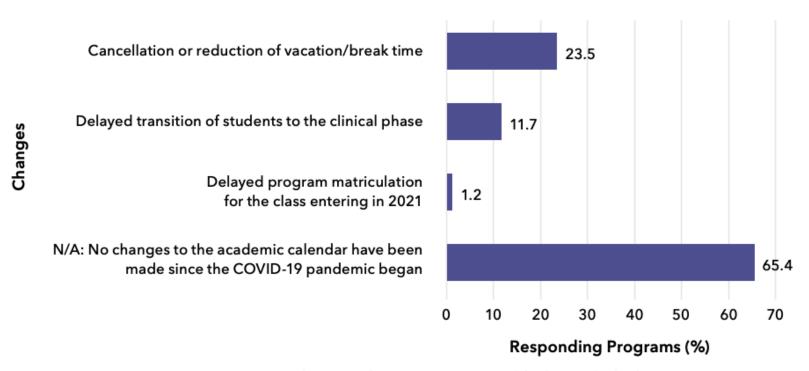
FIGURE 5. PROGRAMS' EXPERIENCES OF CHANGES MADE ON SHORT NOTICE IN 2021



Note: N=162. Percentages may sum to more than 100% because programs could select multiple changes.



FIGURE 3. TEMPORARY CHANGES TO NORMAL ACADEMIC CALENDAR IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19



Note: N=162. Percentages may sum to more than 100% because programs could select multiple changes.



FIGURE 20. INCORPORATION OF TELEMEDICINE INTO DIDACTIC CURRICULUM

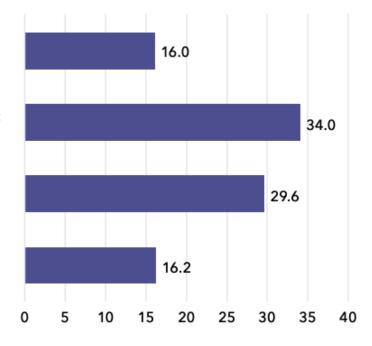
Telemedicine Incorporation

No, and we are not planning to add telemedicine content to our didactic curriculum in the future

No, but we are planning to add telemedicine content to our didactic curriculum in the future

Yes, didactic students are newly receiving telemedicine curriculum as a result of COVID-19

Yes, and didactic students received telemedicine curriculum prior to COVID-19

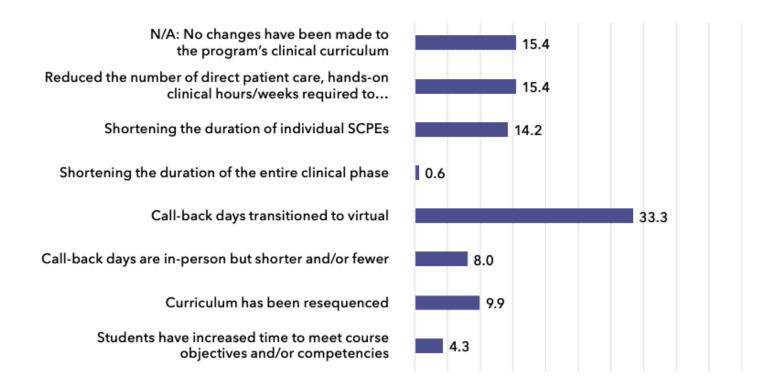


Responding Programs (%)

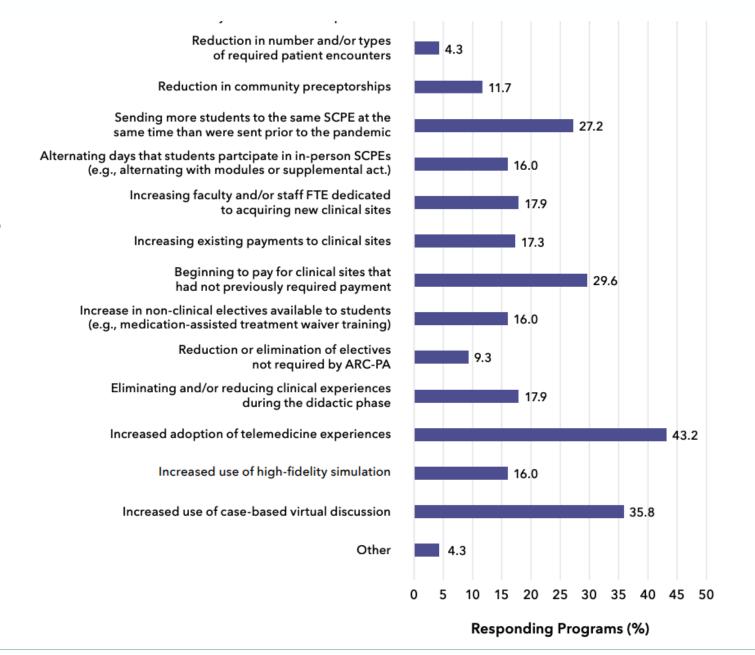
Note: n = 154



FIGURE 19. CHANGES TO CLINICAL CURRICULUM IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC





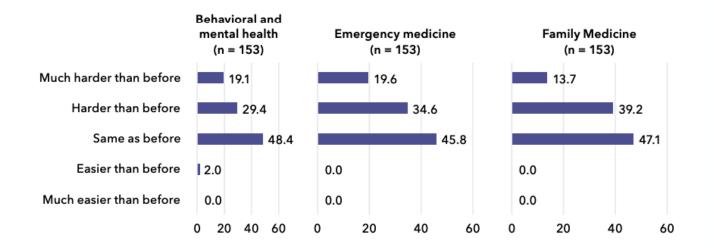




Long-Term/Student Implications



FIGURE 18. EASE OF SECURING CLINICAL SITES COMPARED TO BEFORE THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC



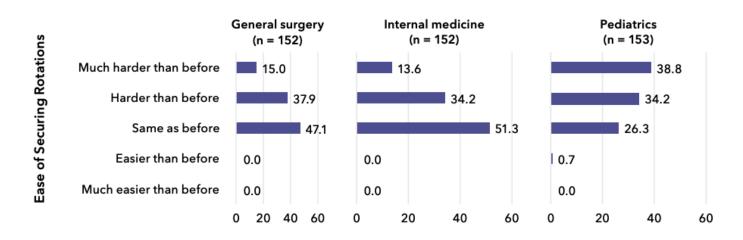
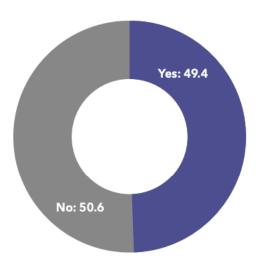




FIGURE 10. NEW COSTS INCURRED BY PROGRAMS DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC



Note: n = 156. Examples of new costs included PPE, new clinical site payments, and additional technology.

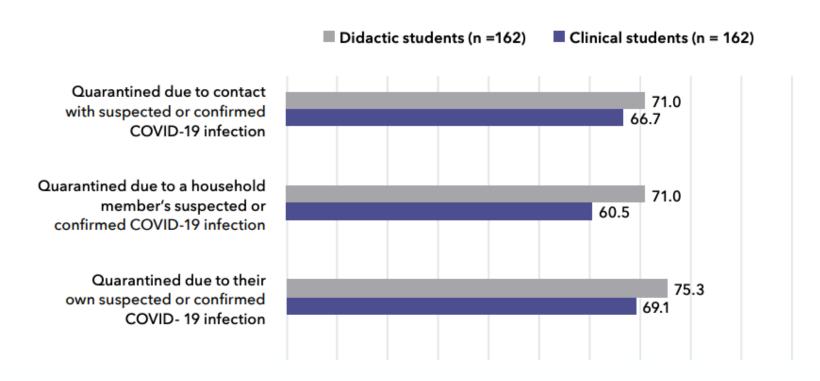
TABLE 10. NEW COSTS INCURRED BY PROGRAMS DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

	N	м	SD	MDN
New Costs	74.0	25,983.0	29,368.0	20,000.0

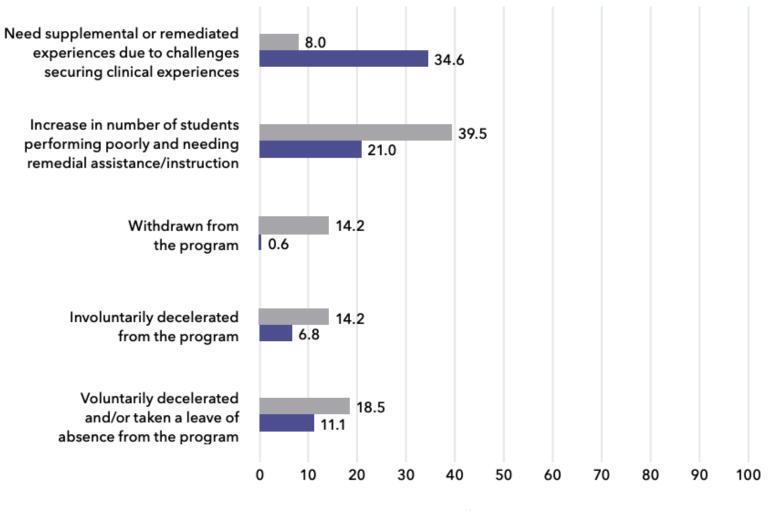
Note: Only programs that reported incurring new costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic were asked to estimate the amount of new expenses. Zeroes and values of exactly "\$1.0" were excluded.



FIGURE 26. COVID-19 PANDEMIC IMPACTS ON STUDENTS







Responding Programs (%)



Policy Recommendations

- Continue to support and expand targeted PCTE competitions which allow direct compensation of clinical preceptors
 - PCTE PA Rural Training Program
- Explore opportunities to encourage grantees to leverage funding to accelerate adoption of telehealth education
- Support increased PCTE investments to support student mental health and resilience training

