

Student Perception of Professional Development Programmes for Pharmacists

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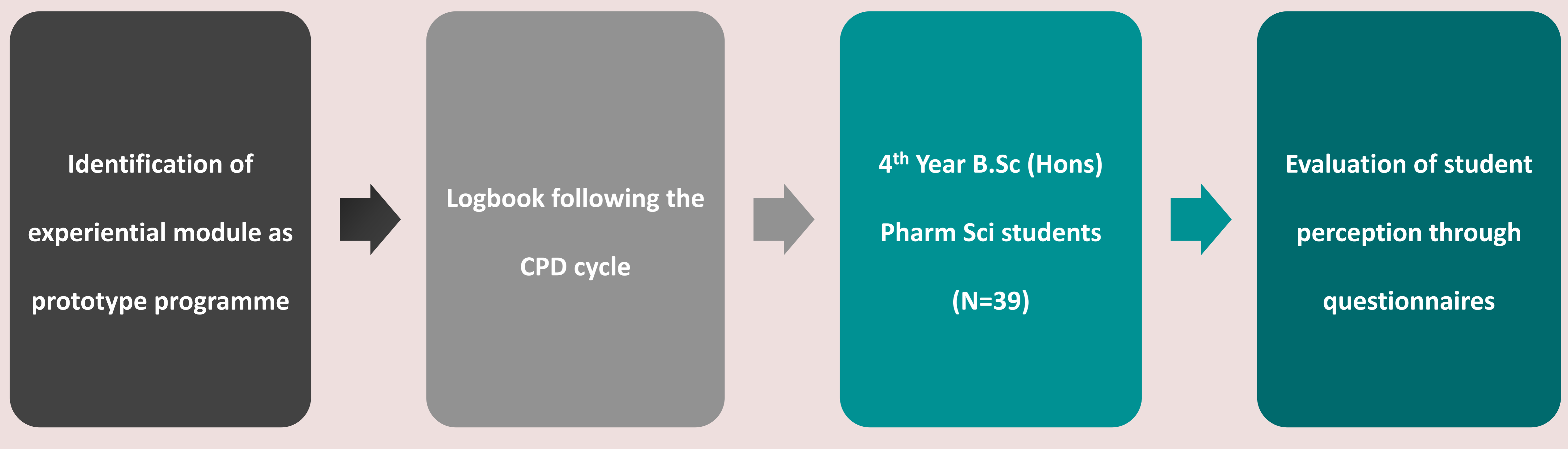
INTRODUCTION

Medical data is continually updated by virtue of advancements in technology and new findings. In order for healthcare systems to be in line with relative progress, healthcare professionals must keep themselves informed in retaining their professional validity¹.

AIMS

To evaluate the understanding and perception of 4th year B.Sc (Hons) Pharmaceutical Science students with respect to Continuing Professional Development (CPD).

METHOD



RESULTS

The use of the logbook increased interest in the area of specialisation in 34 participants, having an effect on the career path of 27 of them. The main issues related to the taking up of CPD programmes following the completion of their studies were those of cost (n=20) and time management (n=20). The level of agreement with the necessity of CPD programmes and their mandatory implementation are independent (p<0.001).

Figure 1: Student views on Necessity of CPD Programmes for Pharmacists (N=39)

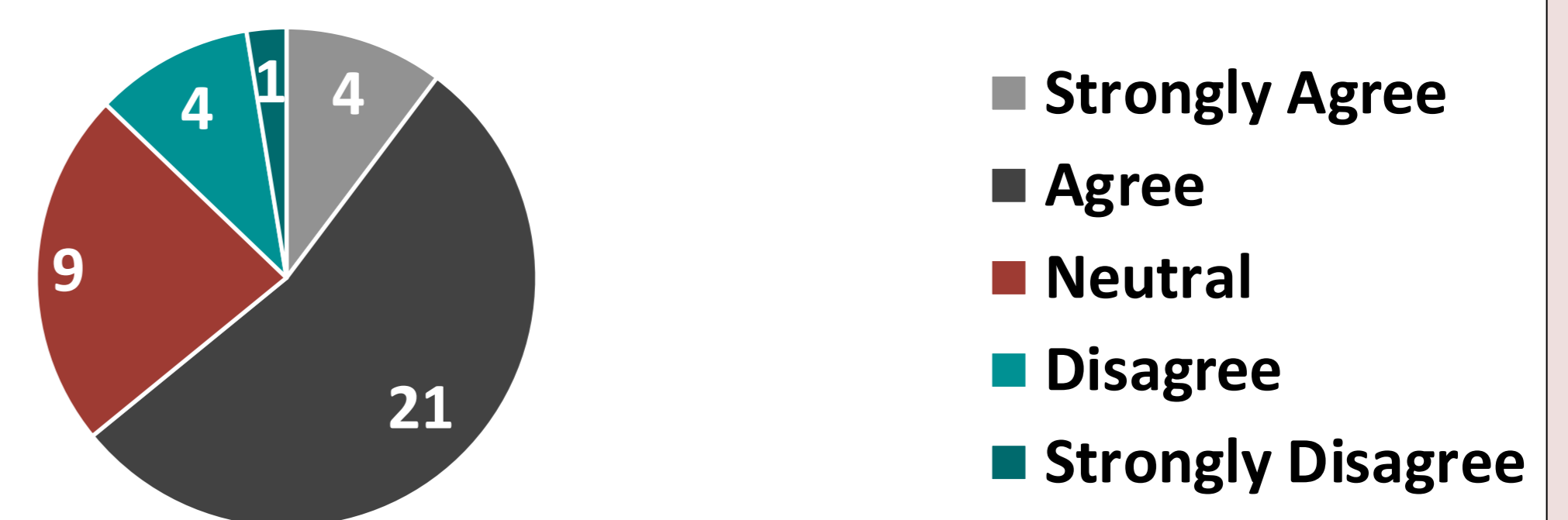
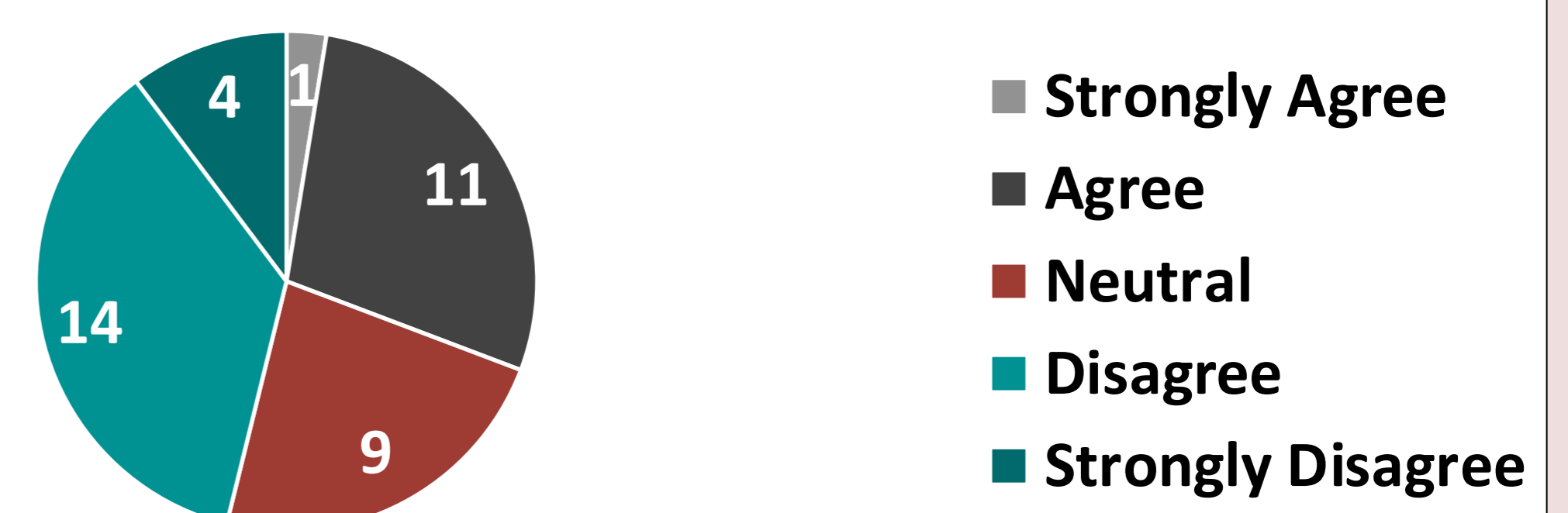


Figure 2: Student views on Implementation of Mandatory CPD for Pharmacists (N=39)



CONCLUSION

Schools of pharmacy are in a position to engender the ideology of lifelong learning from the start of tertiary education, through the integration of study units which mirror the CPD cycle². The implementation of such modules ensures the understanding of the process of CPD, increasing the propensity of graduates partaking in professional development programmes at later stages as professionals.

REFERENCES

- 1: International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP). Transforming Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Education in the Context of Workforce Development. The Hague: International Pharmaceutical Federation; 2017.
- 2: Tofade T, Duggan C, Rouse M, Anderson C. The responsibility of advancing continuing professional development and continuing education globally. American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education. 2015;79(2):16