

Educating Healthcare Professionals to Identify and Treat Victims of Human Trafficking

Background & Problem

- ❖ Health Care Professionals (HCPs) report a need for education, training, and appropriate healthcare guidelines.
- ❖ The lack of training for HCPs presents a barrier to identify those affected by human trafficking (HT).
- ❖ Approximately 88% of sex trafficking survivors report having been in contact with an HCPs.
- ❖ Trafficked persons often suffer from poor physical & mental health and lack of access to health care.

Purpose

- ❖ To increase knowledge and confidence in healthcare professionals identifying and treating people victimized by human trafficking.

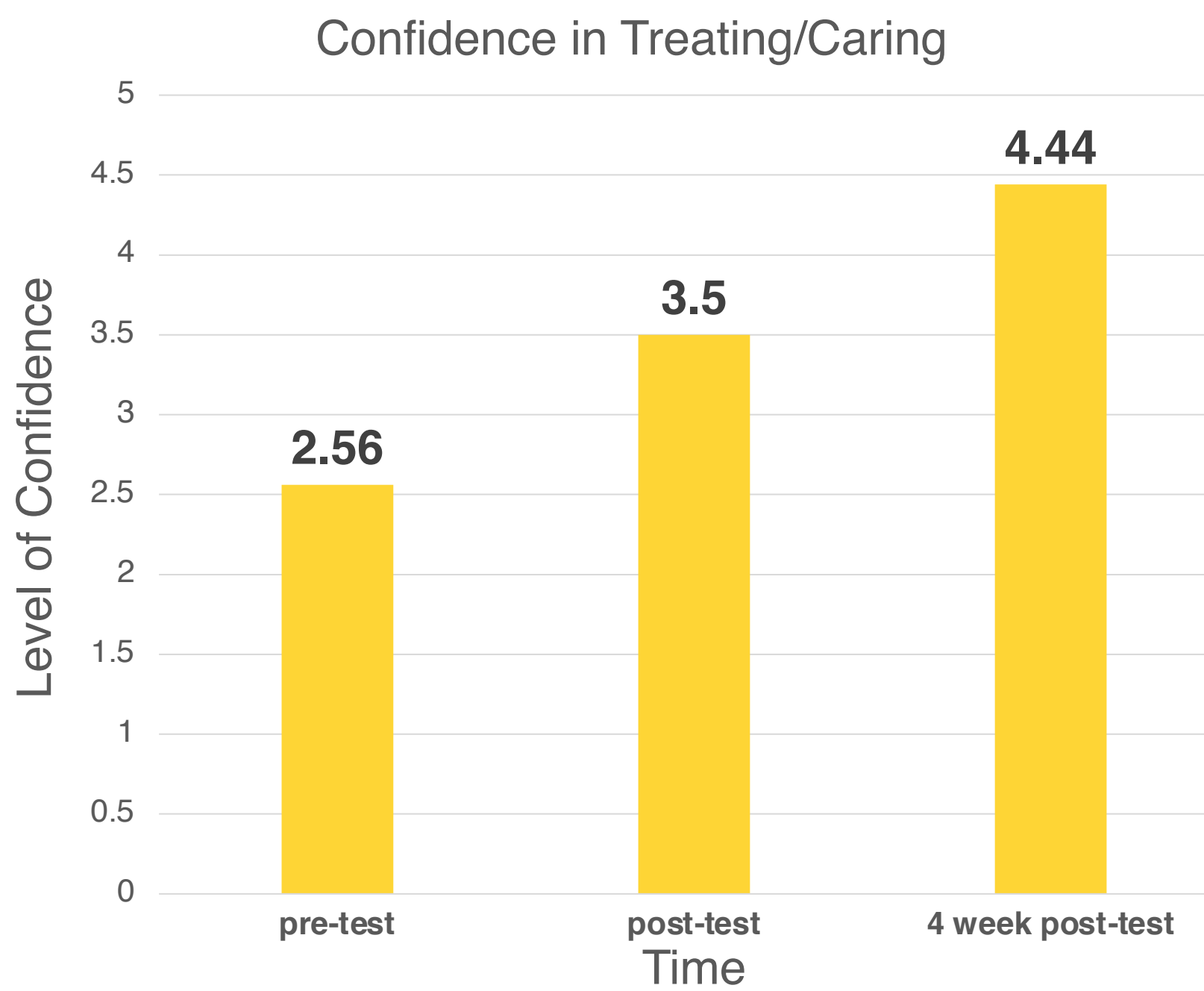
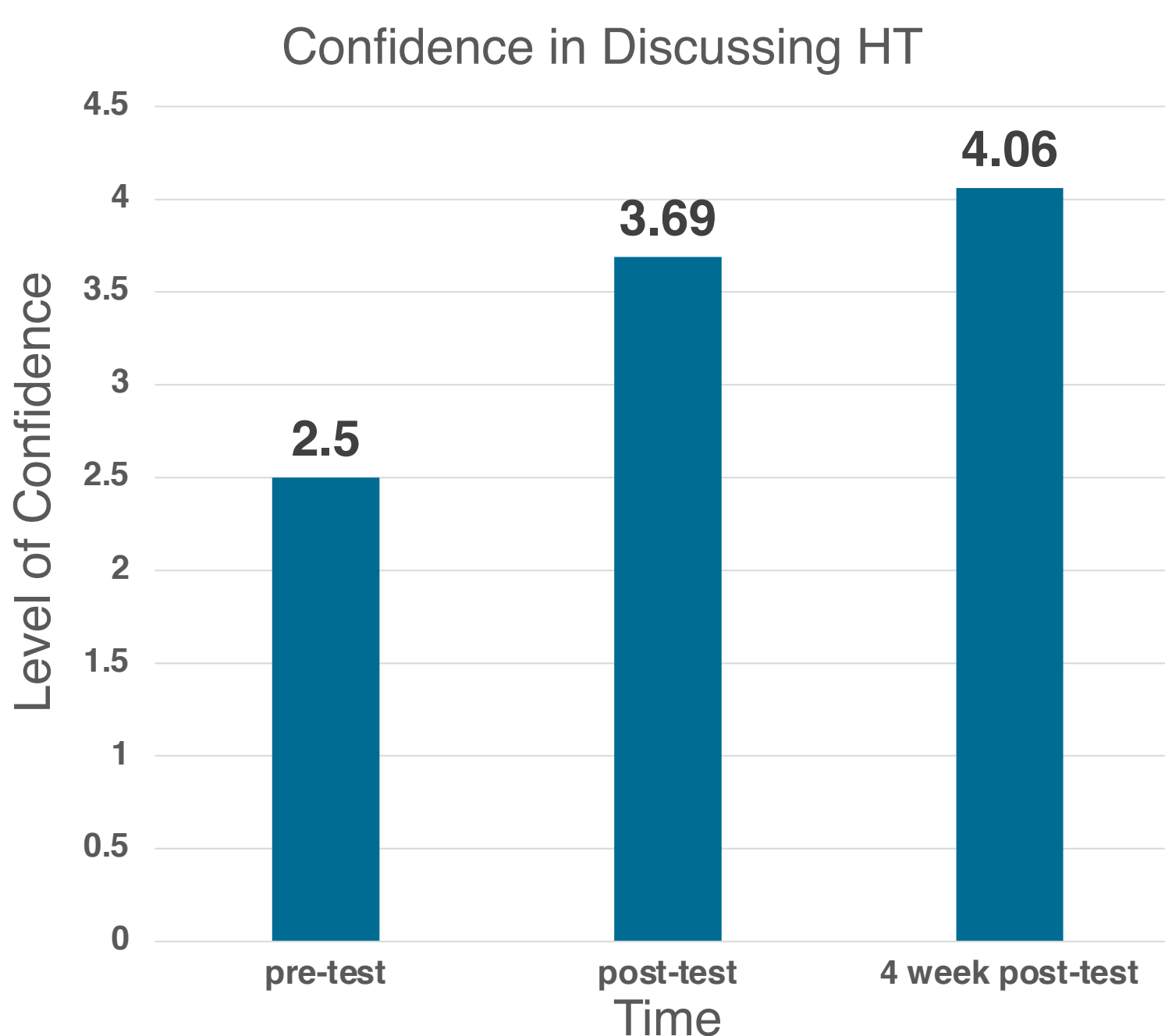
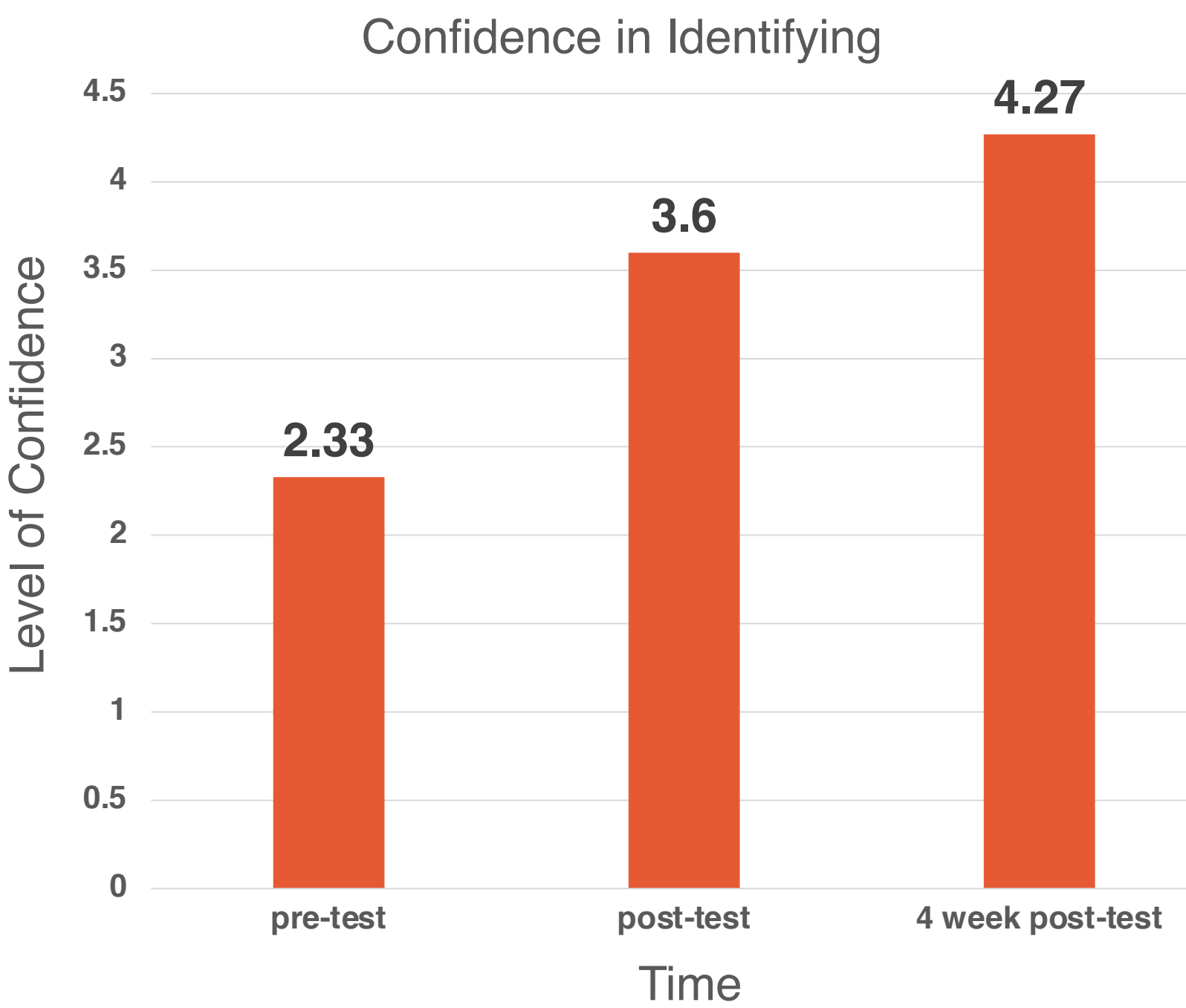
Methods

- ❖ An educational intervention was delivered in collaboration with Community Coalition Against Human Trafficking (CCAHT) utilizing the evidence-based practice improvement (EBPI) model, Iowa Model, and Cognitive Learning Theories.
- ❖ Modified *PROTECT: Provider Responses, Treatment and Care for Trafficked People* (Ross et al., 2015) survey was utilized to develop the pretest, posttest and 4-week-posttest.
- ❖ Pre and post-tests were used directly before and after the training to assess for changes in Knowledge and Confidence. A second post-test was delivered four weeks following training.



Human Trafficking training score comparisons

	Mean (Pre)	Mean (post)	Mean (4-week post)	
Knowledge	10.7	11.4	11.0	[F(2,12)=1.79, p=0.208]
Confidence in Identifying HT	2.33	3.60	4.27	[F(2,13)=13.54, p<0.001]
Confidence in discussing HT	2.50	3.69	4.06	[F(2,14)=9.19, p=0.003]
Confidence in treating/caring for victims of HT	2.56	3.50	4.44	[F(2,14)=16.76, p<0.001]
Confidence in referral to services	2.63	3.75	4.44	[F(2,14)=12.94, p<0.001]



Findings

- ❖ Repeated measures ANOVA showed significant changes across the three time points for all measures of Confidence.
- ❖ Pairwise comparison was used to determine how Confidence of identifying the victim, Confidence in treating/caring, Confidence in referral to services changed over time. All three time points differed.
- ❖ Pairwise comparison was used to determine how Confidence in discussing HT changed over time. Both post-tests were significantly higher than pre-test, with no difference between post-test and 4-week posttest.
- ❖ The results of the repeated measures showed no significant changes across the three time points for knowledge.

Implications

- ❖ Educational trainings on HT have proven effective in successfully increasing confidence in HCPs.
- ❖ Knowledge outcomes did not differ statistically revealing high baseline levels of knowledge without formal training (no training: 62.5%; n=10).
- ❖ Training content was strengthened by expertise from partnership with anti-trafficking organization (CCAHT).

Acknowledgements

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