

Writing Sample – Survey Report Conclusion Section, excerpt

Conclusions

To conclude, both surveys showed that most respondents agreed or strongly agreed that the objectives for the 2014 Symposium were met. Both surveys focused on three areas to assess new knowledge:

- Changes in Performance – results ranged from 88.8 to 95.2%;
- Impact on Patient Care – results ranged from 81.1 to 89.8%; and
- Collaboration – results ranged from 84.8 to 92.1%.

The following is a summary of discussion points.

Survey Participation

The relative response rate for the follow-up survey targeting only those who responded to the first survey was greater than the first survey response rate, which targeted 4,160 Symposium participants.

CME Credits

A few respondents requested help obtaining CME credits. There may be opportunities pre- or post-Symposium to address potential issues that can occur in obtaining CME credit.

Specialty Areas

The largest group to attend the Symposium was medical oncologists. Both surveys reflected this same majority.

Changes in Performance

The follow-up survey showed an increased agreement rate about changes in performance when compared with the first survey. This may indicate that during the time between surveys the respondents increased their use or intent to use the new knowledge to change their performance.

Better/More Efficient Patient Care

There was an increase from the first to the follow-up surveys in the number of respondents who indicated that improvements to patient care were made. This may indicate that over time, Symposium participants increased their use or intent to use new knowledge to improve patient care.

Collaboration with Other Medical Professionals

In both surveys the respondents indicated that they planned to collaborate more in the future with other medical professionals. Four months later the respondents not only reported more collaborations than in the first survey, but also planned more collaborations in the future.

New knowledge gained at the Symposium was shared in a variety of ways including team meetings, board meetings, informal discussions, teaching medical students, and in publications and presentations. Additionally, the act of reflection gained slight comment share in the follow-up survey, indicating that respondents shifted some focus from collaboration to reflection.

Suggestions for Refinement

Both surveys revealed a conflicting set of suggestions for the focus of sessions content. The comments suggested an increased focus on basic science, clinical, and surgical topics. There were also suggestions for session topics, more collaborative opportunities, technology integration, and changes to the poster session.