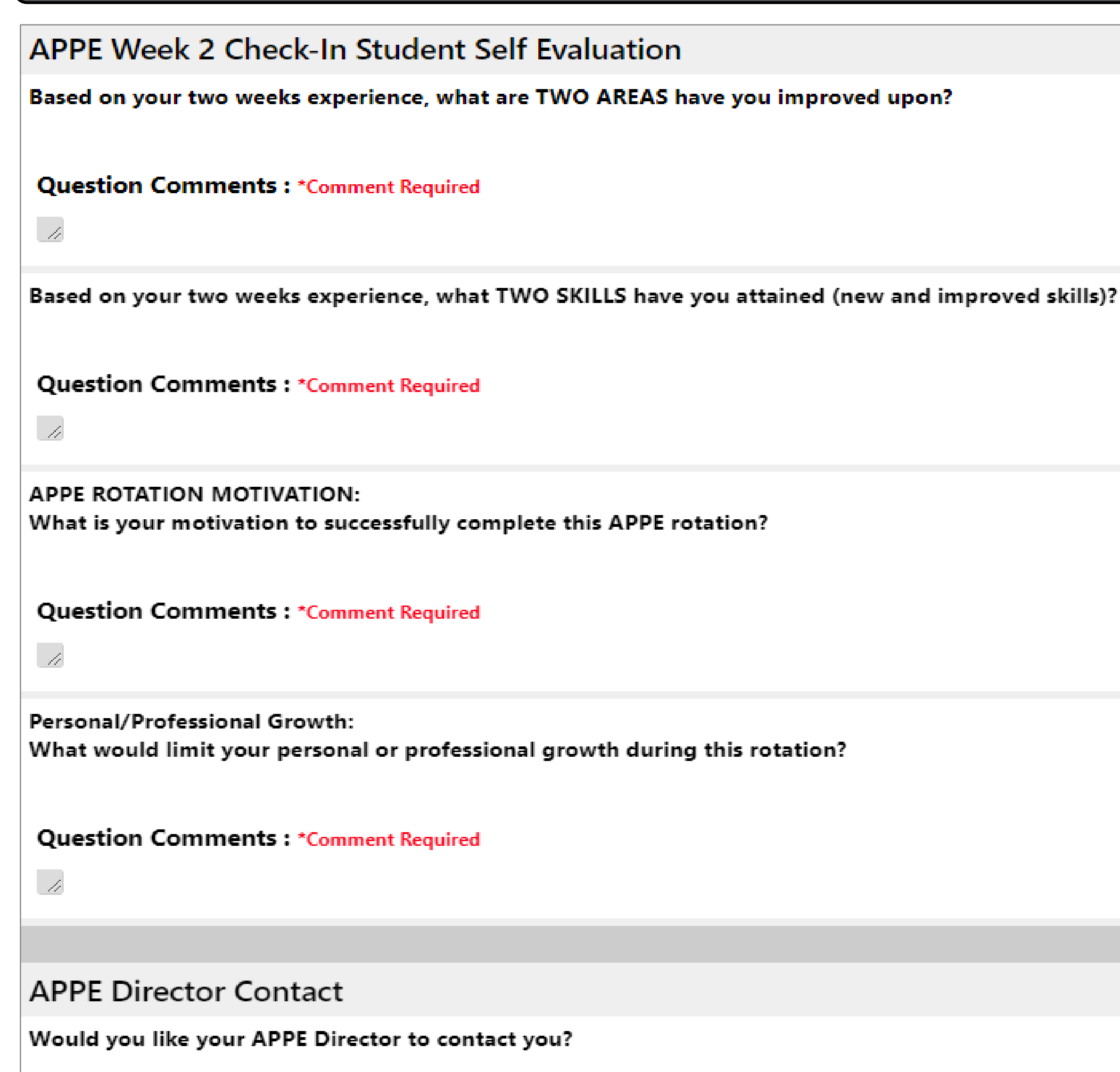


BACKGROUND

- The University of Houston College of Pharmacy (UHCOP) Office of Experiential Programs (OEP) utilizes a two-week student self-evaluation check-in process for each six-week advanced pharmacy practice experience (APPE). (Figure 1)
- OEP Faculty review of each two-week check-in has enabled our team the knowledge to help better support our students in their physical and mental health.
- Mental health concerns among professional students and healthcare workers have been well documented since the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020. Increases in reported rates of depression and anxiety from different survey tools have been documented (Aymerich et al., Frajerman et al.).
- Pharmacy learners often assumed front-line healthcare worker responsibilities as well as the role of professional student during this timeframe.
- The data collected and analyzed from our study population offers an important insight into the reported mental health concerns of student pharmacists while on APPEs before and during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Figure 1. UHCOP APPE 2 Week Student Self-Evaluation



APPE Week 2 Check-In Student Self Evaluation
Based on your two weeks experience, what are TWO AREAS have you improved upon?

Question Comments : *Comment Required

Based on your two weeks experience, what TWO SKILLS have you attained (new and improved skills)?

Question Comments : *Comment Required

APPE ROTATION MOTIVATION:
What is your motivation to successfully complete this APPE rotation?

Question Comments : *Comment Required

Personal/Professional Growth:
What would limit your personal or professional growth during this rotation?

Question Comments : *Comment Required

APPE Director Contact
Would you like your APPE Director to contact you?

OBJECTIVES

- To examine the effects of COVID-19 on student self-evaluation responses regarding potential barriers that would limit their growth while on advanced pharmacy practice experiences (APPEs).
- Researchers hypothesize an increased frequency of keywords associated with mental health concerns in the post-COVID group.

METHODS

Study design / Inclusion

- UHCOP OEP utilizes student self-evaluation check-in processes for each APPE. Data from the check-in was categorized into pre (2019-2020) and post-COVID (2021-2022) required rotations.
- Inclusion:
 - Age ≥ 18 years
 - Student pharmacists enrolled in the four required advanced pharmacy practice experiences (PHAR 5675, PHAR 5690, PHAR 5692, PHAR 5693) between summer 2018 through spring 2022 semesters
 - Completed student 2-week check-in self-evaluation

Data Collection

- Researchers identified and quantified the frequency of keywords associated with mental health concerns as barriers that would limit personal and professional growth.
- Keywords included "anxious" "anxiety" "worry" "depress" "frightened" "afraid" "fear" "nervous." Keywords were selected based on verbiage from validated questionnaires assessing anxiety and depression (PHQ-4, GAD-7). The keyword "COVID" was also assessed.

Statistical analysis

- Two sample T test was performed comparing number of keyword occurrences.
- P value of <0.05 was statistically significant.

RESULTS

Table 1. Evaluations Assessed by Year

Pre/Post COVID	Graduating Year	Number of Evaluations Assessed	Average Number of Keywords per APPE	Non-COVID Keyword Occurrence	P-Value
Pre	2019	525	1.36	19	0.704
	2020	456			
Post	2021	550	1.57	22	
	2022	492			

Figure 2. Keyword Occurrences Pre/Post COVID

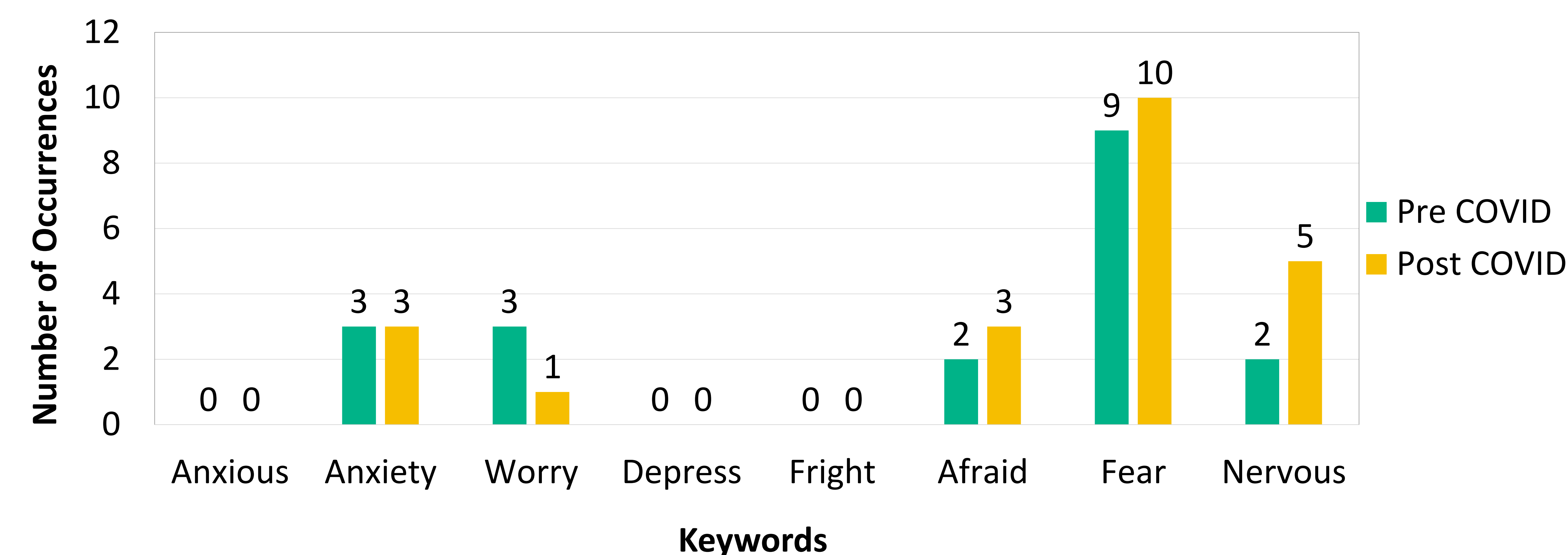


Figure 3. Keyword Occurrence by Group

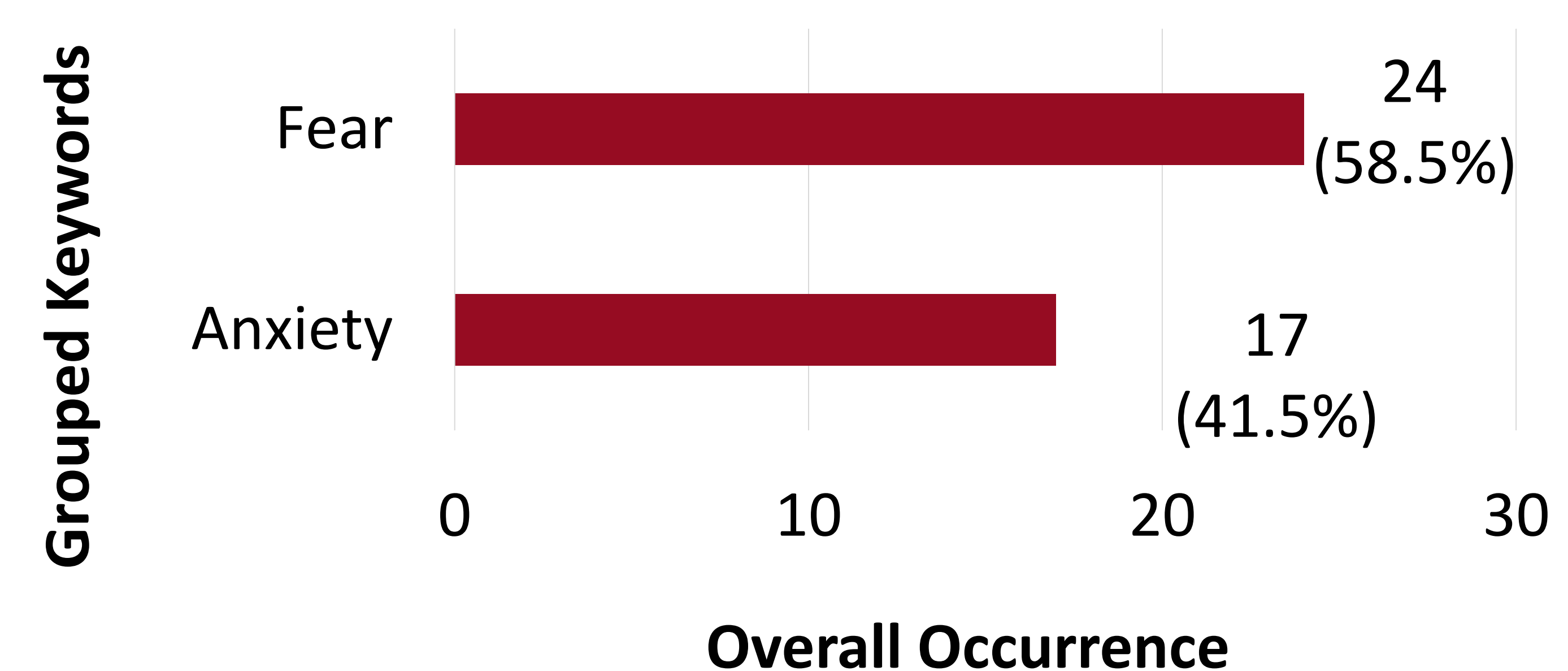
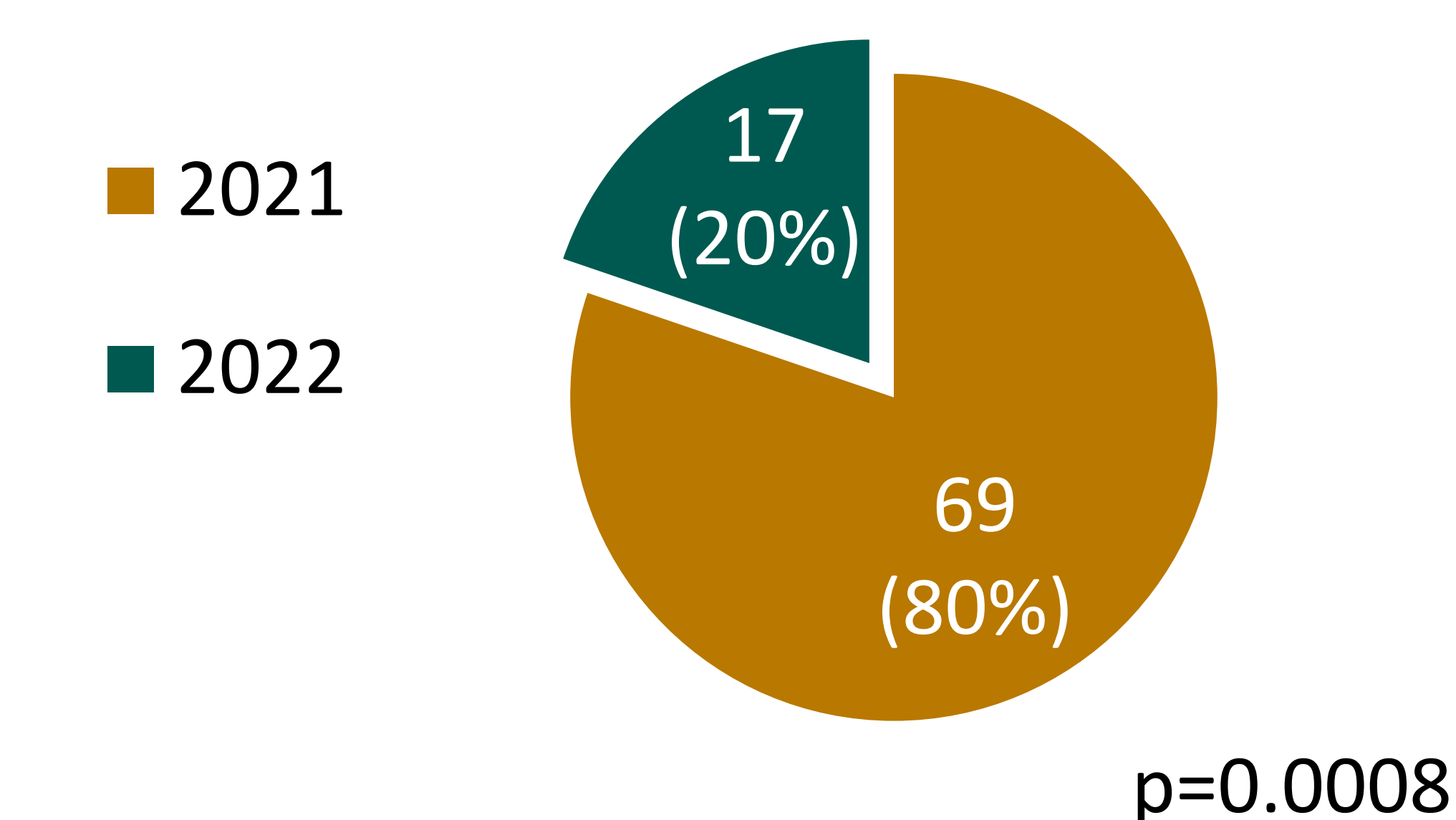


Figure 4. "COVID" Keyword Occurrences by Year



p=0.0008

CONCLUSIONS

- Statistically our study showed no difference in selected keyword frequency in APPE student check-ins pre and post-COVID. There was notable use of "COVID" in the post-COVID group suggesting that while there is no statistical difference in the other keywords, students felt this was a potential barrier to their growth. There was a trend in keywords associated with "fear" more frequently than "anxiety" throughout the evaluations; this was not tested for significance. As we continue to reflect on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, we can utilize these tools to better understand and support students and pharmacists.