



# Evaluating Perceptions of Test Anxiety Among Student Pharmacists and Faculty Members

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## OBJECTIVES

- Previous research has estimated that 15-20% of pharmacy students suffer from severe test anxiety<sup>1</sup>
- Cognitive Test Anxiety Scale – Second Version (CTAS-2) is a 24-item scale used to assess cognitive indicators of test anxiety
- Research has not investigated the students' self-awareness of test anxiety, nor perceptions of students or faculty on test anxiety with regard to prevalence, impact, ease of treatment, and importance in pharmacy education
- Purpose is to evaluate student pharmacists' actual versus perceived level of test anxiety as well as faculty members' perceptions of test anxiety among pharmacy students

## METHODS

Qualtrics® survey distributed

53 questions for UMSOP  
PY1-PY4 students  
N = 413

21 questions for  
UMSOP faculty  
N = 56

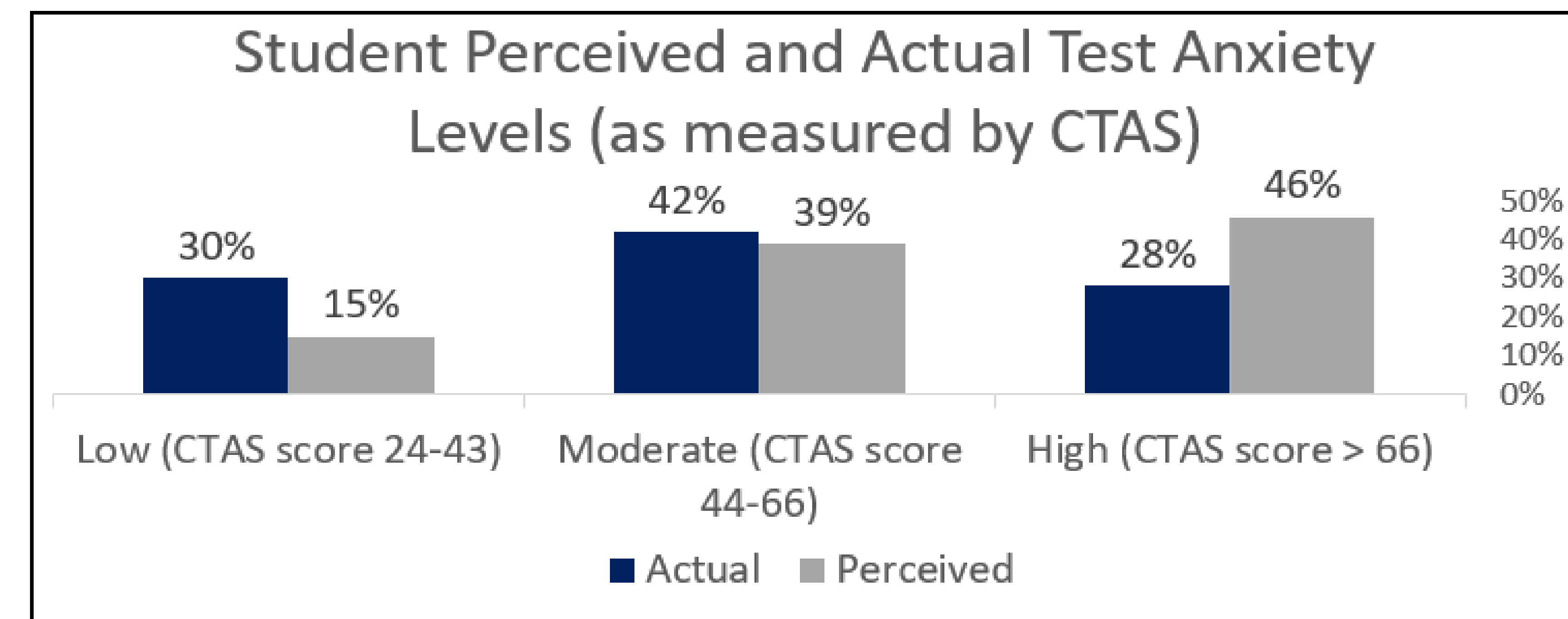
Respondents not required to complete all questions to progress through survey

Included if 100% of questions acknowledged even if no answer given

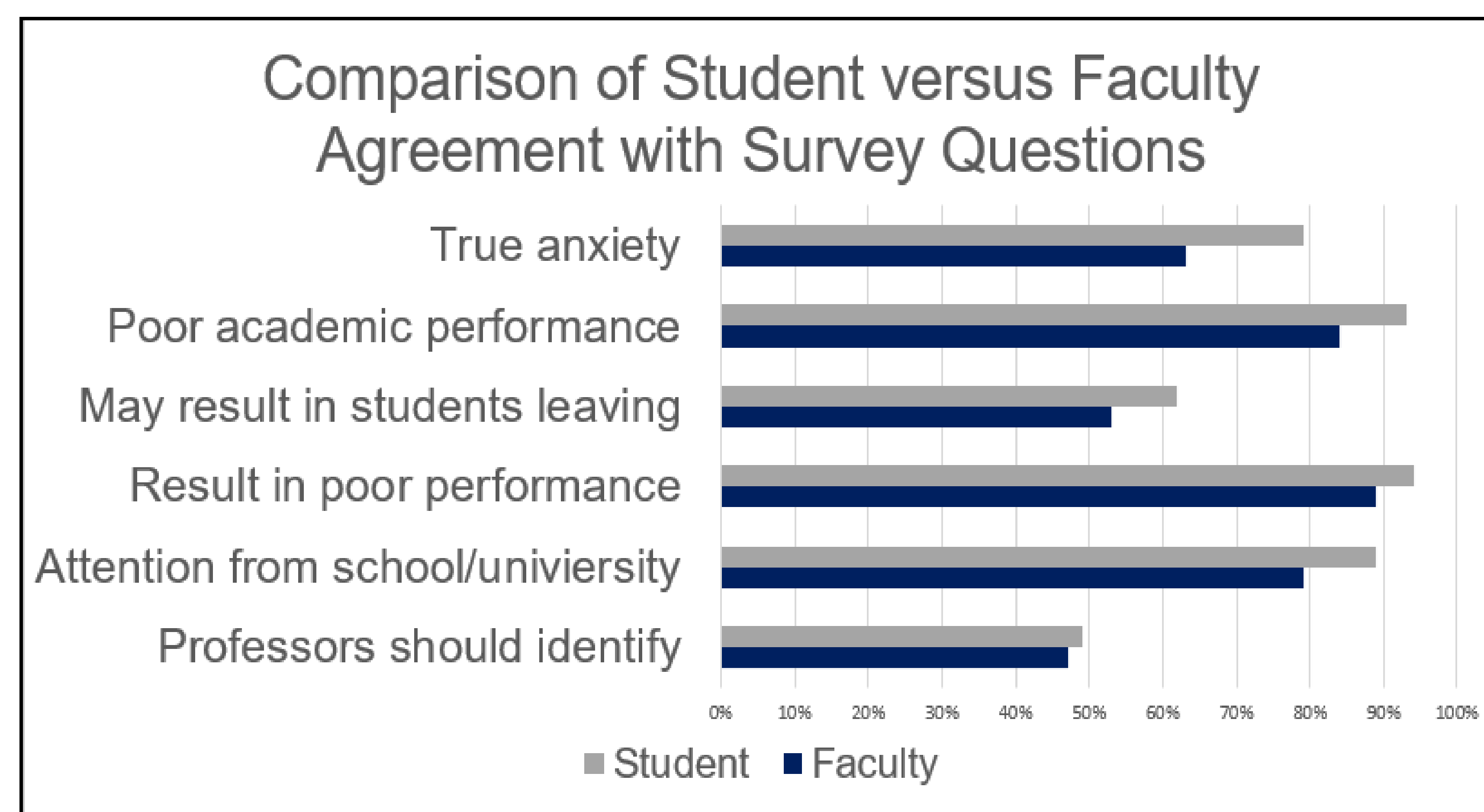
Students  
n= 123

Faculty  
n = 19

## RESULTS



- CTAS-2 indicate moderate test anxiety predominates in all classes
- Per student perceived levels:
  - Low anxiety mostly reported by P4s
  - Moderate anxiety reported mostly by P2s
  - High anxiety reported mostly by P1s and P3s



## DEMOGRAPHICS

Variables	Students n = 123 (%)	Variables	Faculty n = 18 (%)
<b>Age (years)</b>		<b>Gender</b>	
21-24	111 (90)	Male	8 (44)
25-30	6 (5)	Female	10 (56)
<b>Gender (n=122)</b>		<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	
Male	26 (31)	White	15 (83)
Female	95 (78)	Black	1 (6)
transgender	1 (<1)	Asian	2 (11)
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>		<b>Years of Teaching Experience (years; n = 19)</b>	
White	106 (86)	< 10	9 (47)
Black	9 (7)	>10-20	10 (53)
Asian	8 (7)	<b>Department</b>	
<b>Professional Year</b>		Pharmacy Practice	9 (50)
P1	35 (29)	Basic Sciences	5 (28)
P2	37 (31)	Pharmacy	3 (17)
P3	28 (23)	Administration	
P4	21 (17)	Pharmaceutics	1 (5)

## CONCLUSIONS

- Student pharmacists' self-perception may be overestimated and felt it highly impacted their lifestyle and performance within pharmacy school
- Faculty accurately estimated the degree of test anxiety, felt confident in being able to help students, and believed test anxiety should receive attention from both faculty and the school

## DISCLOSURES

- The authors have nothing to disclose concerning possible financial or personal relationships with commercial entities that may have a direct or indirect interest in the subject matter of this presentation.

## REFERENCES

1. Pate A, Neely S, et al. A multicenter study assessing effect of cognitive test anxiety on NAPLEX scores. *Am J Pharm Ed*. <https://doi.org/10.5688/ajpe8041>