

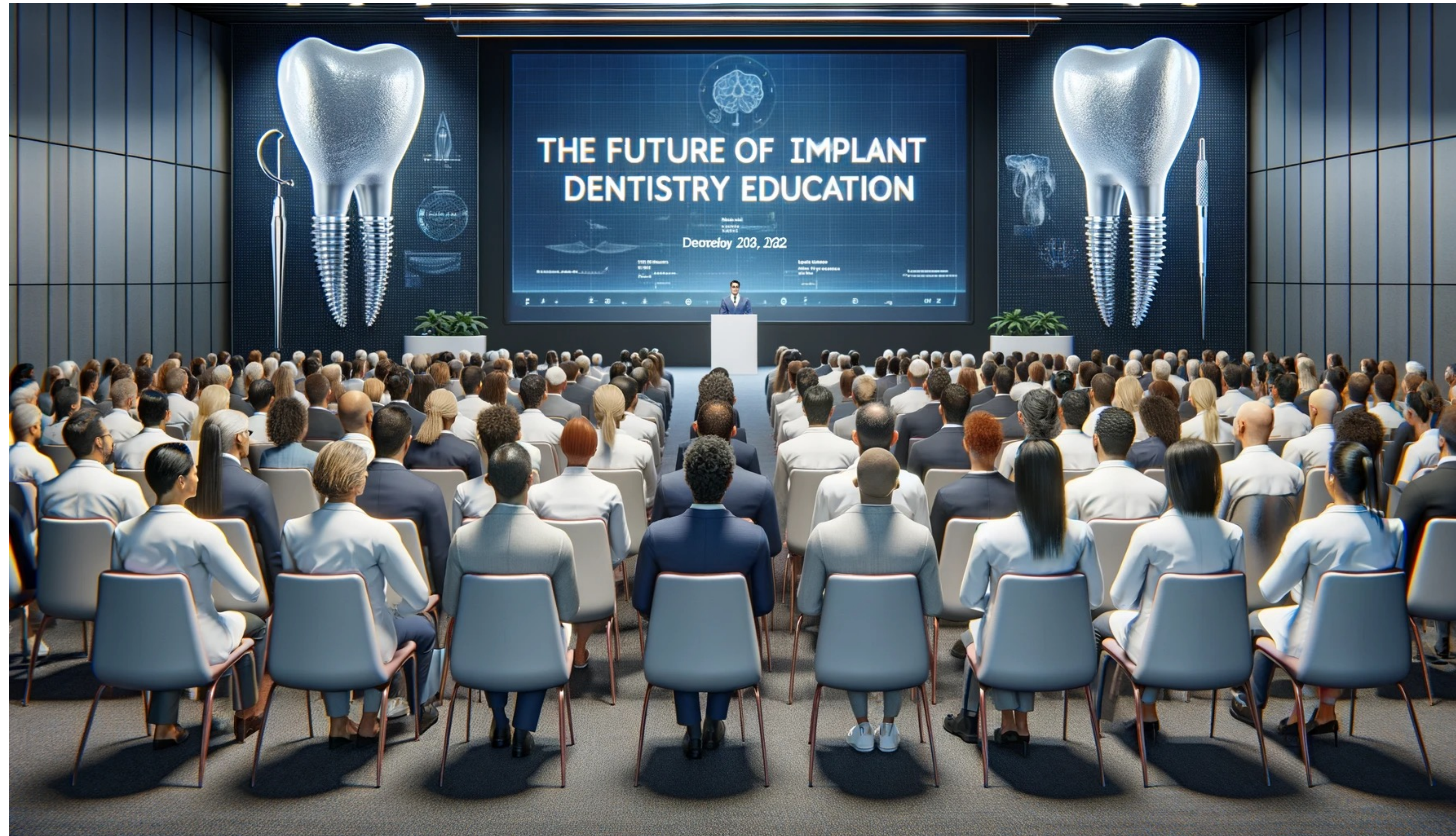
Evaluating Dental Students' Perceptions of Implant Dentistry Education

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Background & Aims



Aims

- To determine fourth-year **dental students'** perceptions and confidence in their implant dental education at the **UNC Adams School of Dentistry**.
- To assess factors influencing learner **confidence** pertaining to **implant dentistry**.



Methods

Survey Design

- Fourth-year dental students
- Voluntary, anonymous questionnaire
- Students self-assessed on tasks associated with implant dentistry
 - Called entrustable professional activities (EPAs).
- Confidence was determined on a 5-point scale
 - Range: “totally confident & independent” to “not confident at all”

Statistics

- Descriptive, bivariate, and multivariate analyses
($p \leq 0.05$)





Results

Response rate: 70%; 46% complete responses (n = 41 students)

Implant Dentistry is **VERY** important to dental students

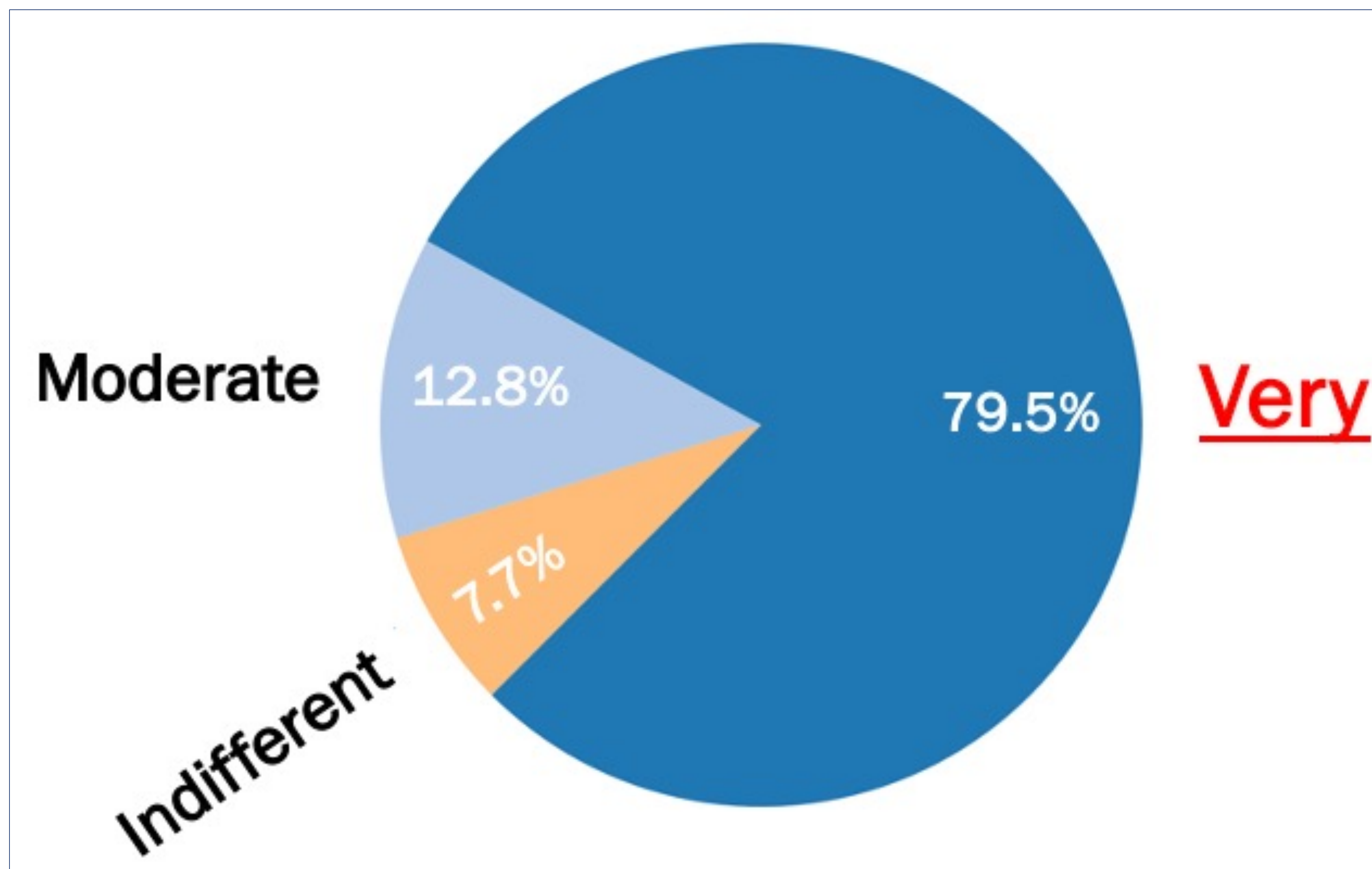


Figure 1. Student (n=41) perception on importance of implant dentistry

Students desire **well-rounded** implant training

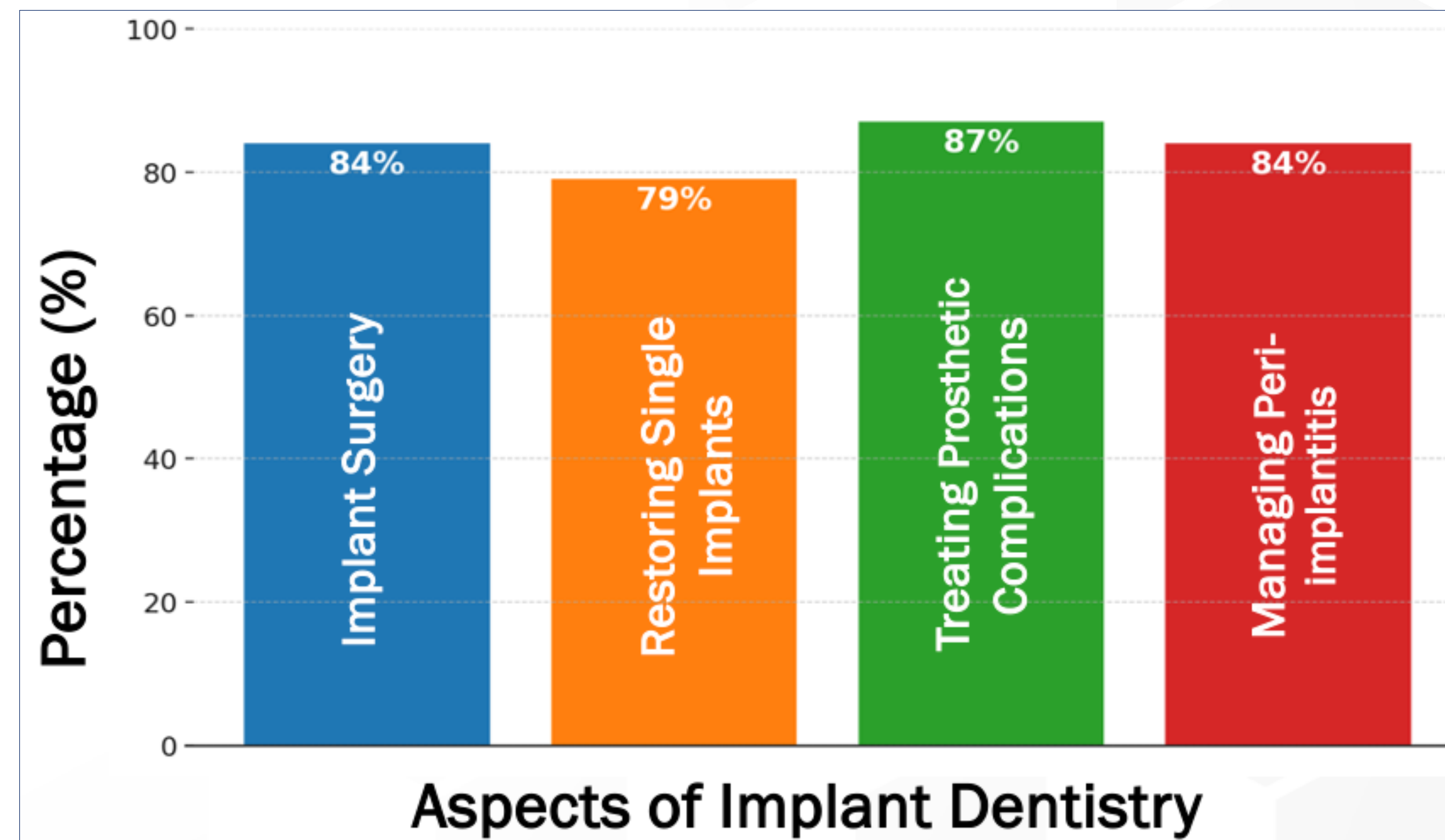


Figure 2. Percentage of student interest in improving expertise in implant dentistry

Future Generalists **2.35X** more confident in case selection (p=.0369)

Older Students **11X** more likely to place single implants (p=0.0035)



Conclusions



- Students' overall perceptions are **positive**
 - influenced by specific demographic variables
- These preliminary data represent **one dental school's** experience
 - limited data on this topic
- Call for a **reassessment** of implant dentistry in dental school curriculum
 - Evolving field
- Consideration for **Individualization Model**

Thank you!