

# A Highly Effective ID Physician and Infection Preventionist-led Interactive Webinar Series for Infection Prevention and Control Training Among Frontline Healthcare Workers

Riley Ostdiek, Muhammad Salman Ashraf (1, 2), Mounica Soma (1), Nada Fadul (1, 2), Sarah Stream (1), Dan German (1),

Kate Tyner (1), and Nicolás Cortés-Penfield (1, 2)

(1)Nebraska Infection Control Assessment and Promotion program, Nebraska Medicine, Omaha, NE, (2) Division of Infectious Diseases, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

## BACKGROUND

- Nebraska Infection Control Assessment and Promotion Program (ICAP) offers free, voluntary infection control consultations and training seminars to healthcare facilities, funded by Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services through a CDC grant
- In 2022, ICAP launched a COVID-19-specific basic infection prevention and control (IPC) training to frontline healthcare providers (HCPs) through a discussion-based webinar series
- Curricular materials were created by the CDC Project Firstline, and the webinar series was advertised to HCPs via Nebraska DHHS listservs and social media

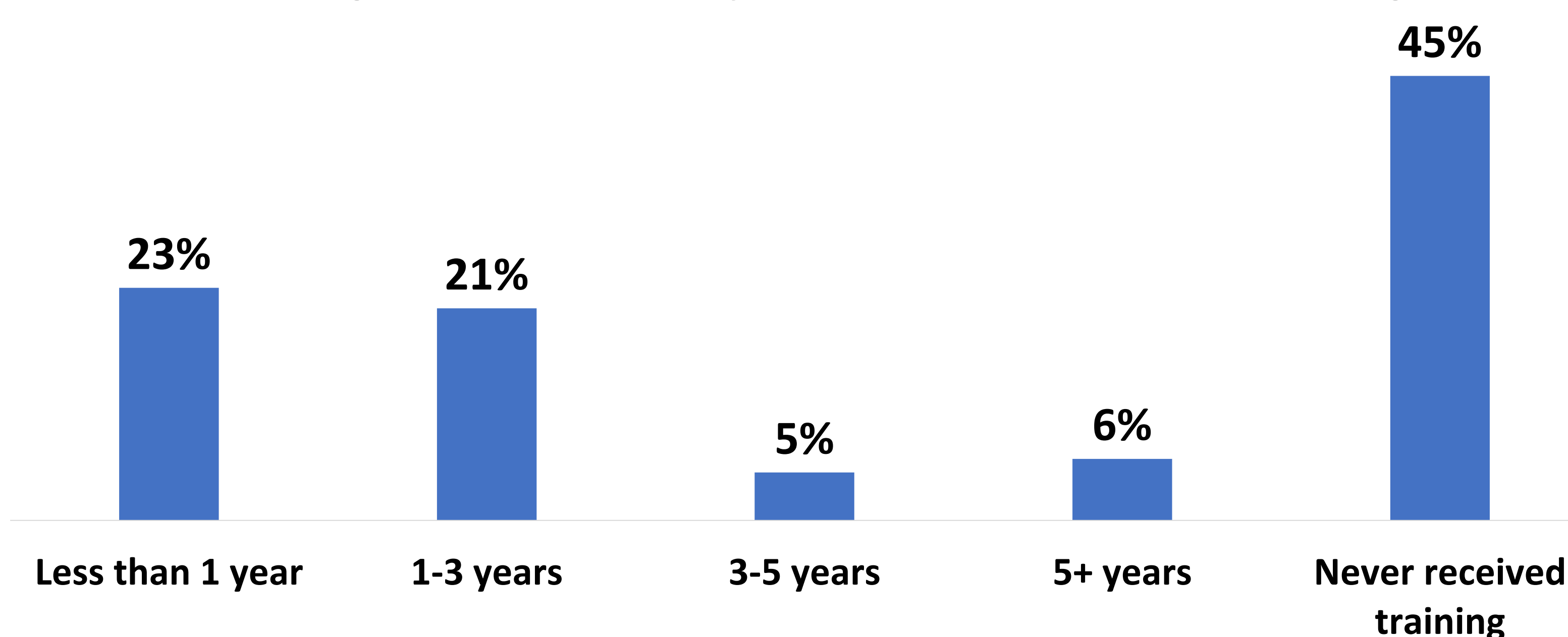
## METHODS

- Training was completed over a 14-week period via weekly, interactive 30-minute webinars with a new topic covered each week
- A survey was administered to participants prior to the webinar series and at the conclusion of training to assess effectiveness of the training and perceived value of topics covered

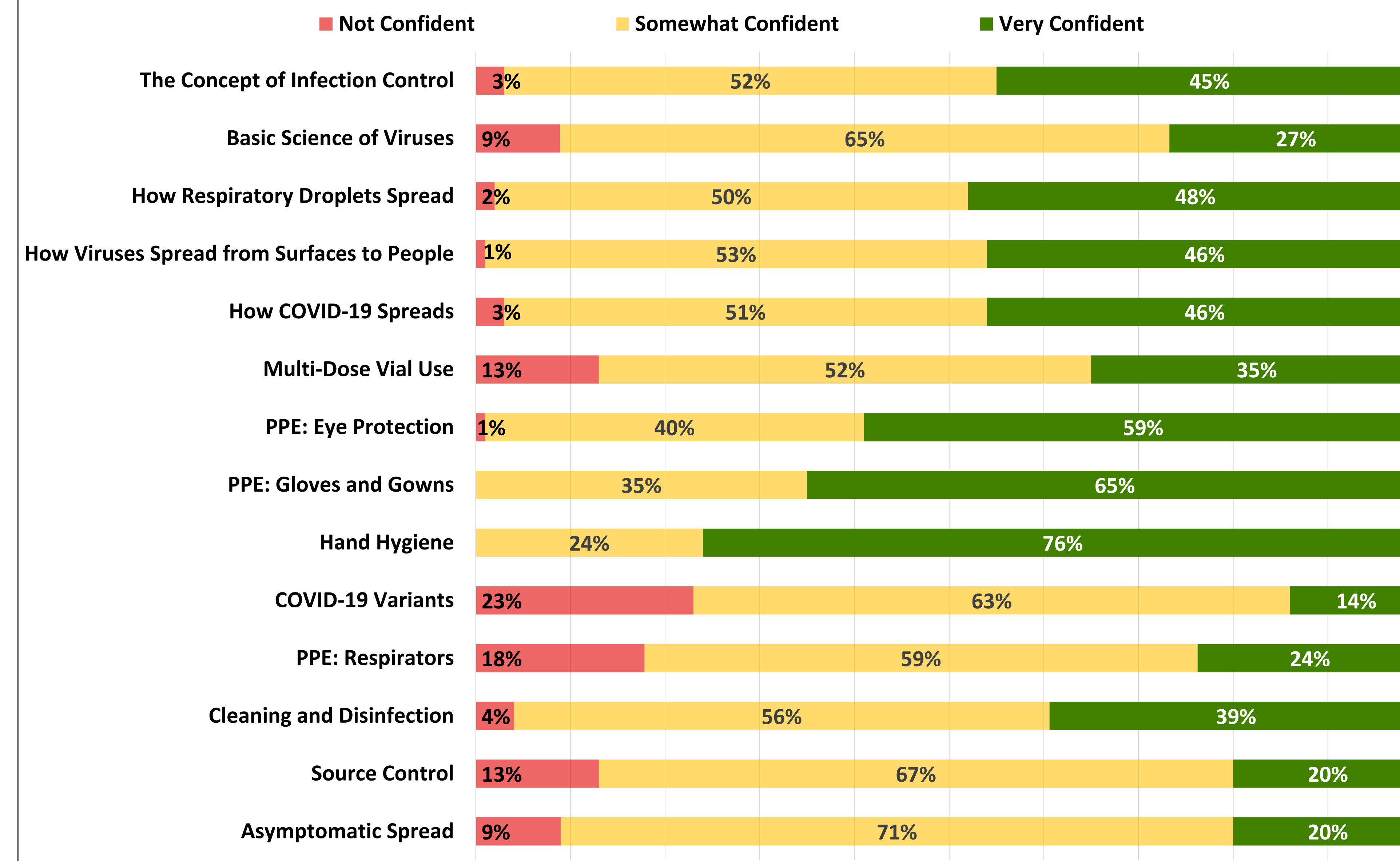
## RESULTS

- Only 23% of participants reported having a formal infection control training within a year of the webinar series
- Prior to the training series, a mean 40.3% of participants judged themselves “very confident” in IPC topics, versus 52.7% “somewhat confident” and 7.1% “not confident”
- By the end of the training, confidence levels had improved to 85.4%, 14.3%, and 0.4%, respectively
- The largest gains in the “very confident” category concerned “source control” (+65%) and “COVID-19 variants” (+63%)
- A majority of participants perceived each topic covered in the series to be “very valuable”; 98% of participants indicated interest in a future IPC training series

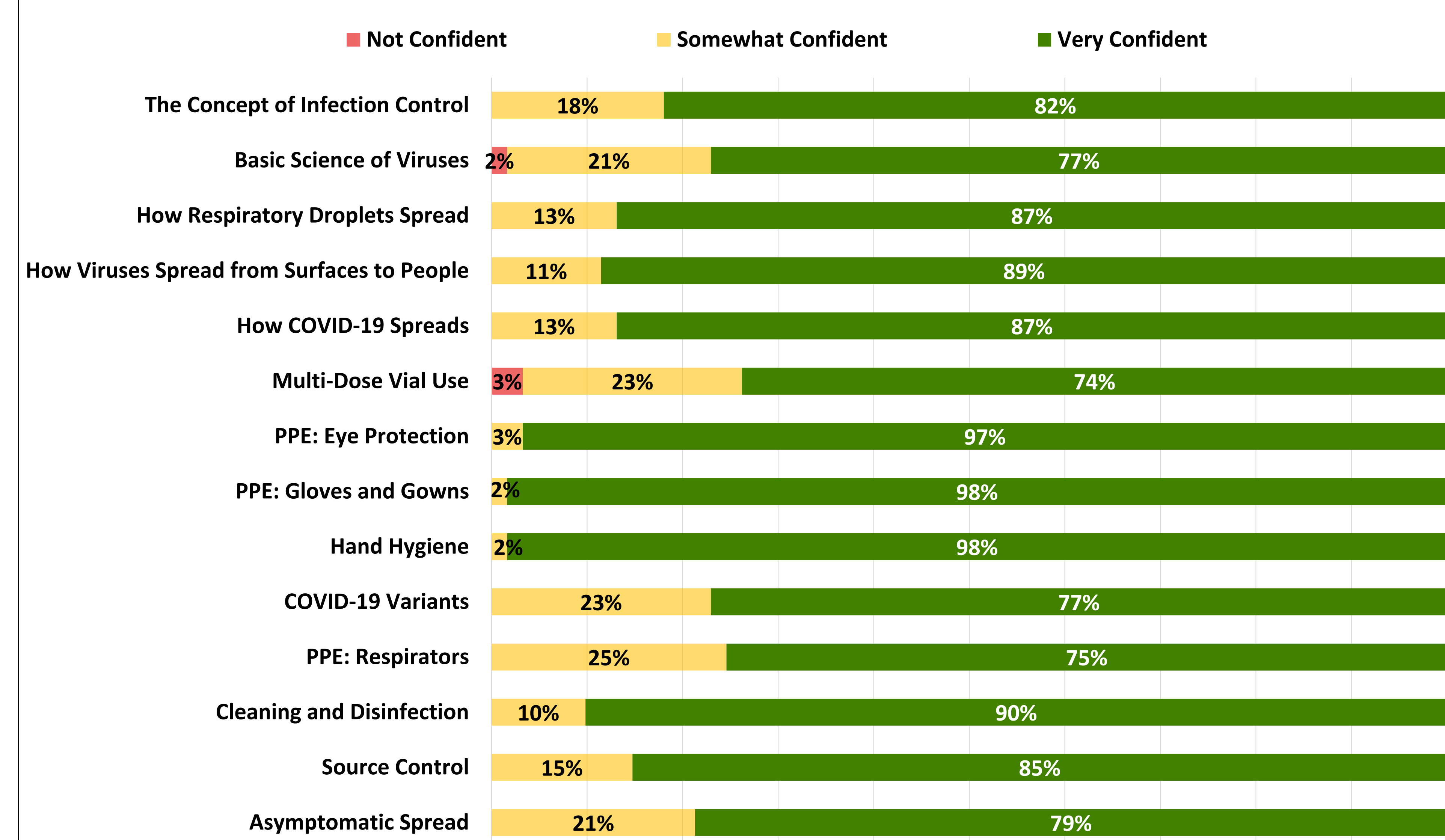
How long has it been since your last infection control training?



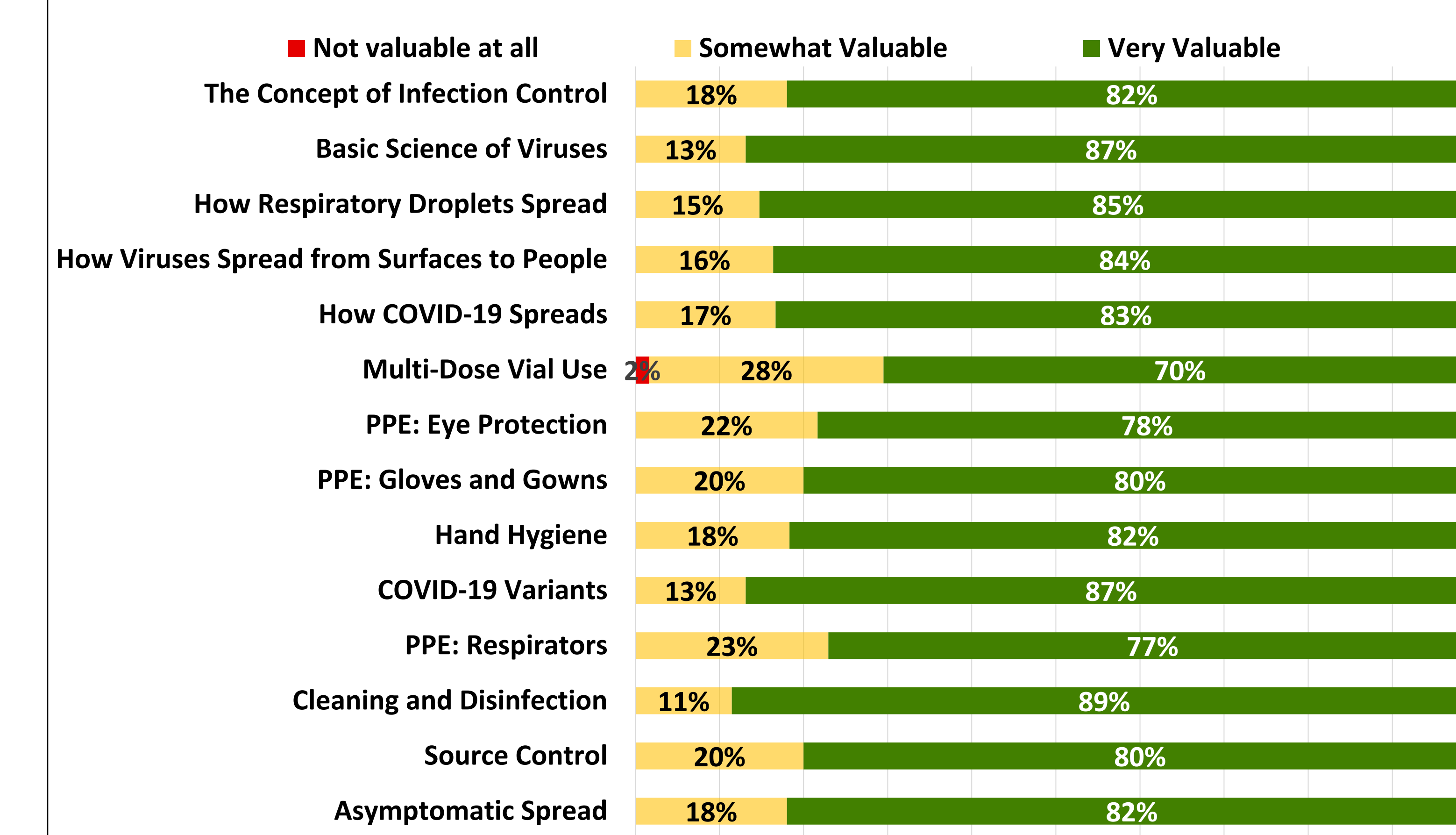
Prior to the Project Firstline Series how confident are you in your knowledge of the following topics? (N=147)



Now that you have completed the education during the 14-week Project Firstline Series, how confident are you in your knowledge of the following topics? (N=61)



Did you find the Project Firstline training topics valuable? (N=61)



## CONCLUSION

- Survey data suggests that a discussion-based webinar using CDC Project Firstline materials is highly effective at conveying fundamental concepts in infection control to frontline HCPs
- HCPs rated themselves as likely to return, suggesting this format is a promising modality for widespread dissemination of IPC training
- Based on the positive reception of this webinar training, future IPC training topics will continue to be offered by ICAP in this fashion

## DISCLOSURE

- The authors of this study have no relevant conflicts of interest to disclose related to the content of this poster

## REFERENCES

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2022, May 6). *Project Firstline Infection control training*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved July 20, 2022, from <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/projectfirstline/index.html>



Contact Information:  
Riley Ostdiek, B.S.  
Nebraska Medical Center  
Omaha, NE 68198-8173  
riley.ostdiek@unmc.edu

