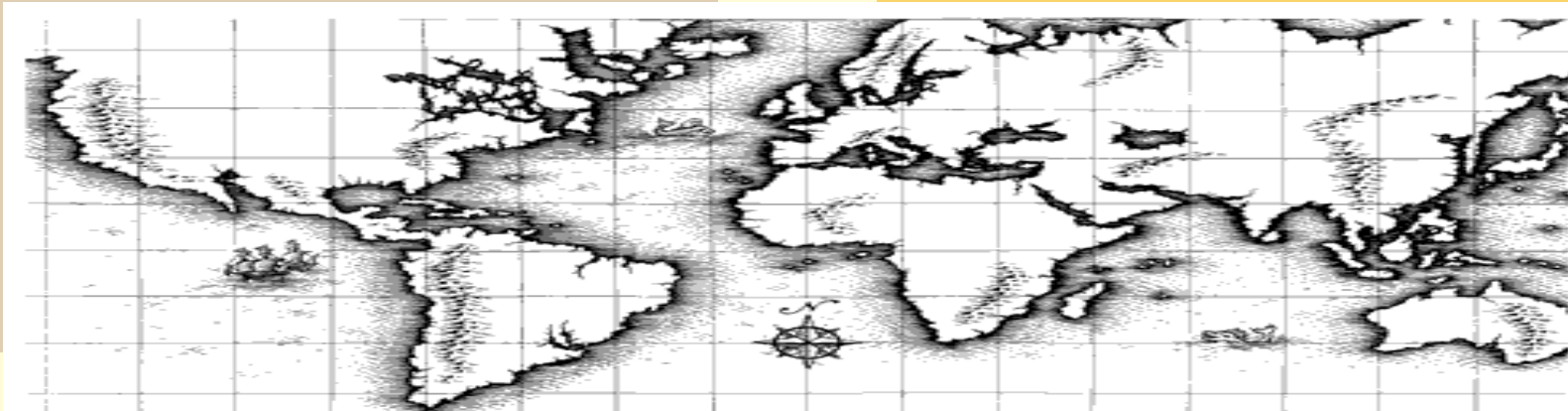




Setting a Course for the Maiden Voyage: Measuring the Effect of a Library Training Module on First Year Medical Students

Danny O'Neal, University of South Florida
Linda Musante, University of Tampa



Profession of Medicine:

An Integrated Approach to Basic Principles

Research Skills

- “State of the Art” Presentation
 - 4 clinical topics
 - 1980 ‘State of the Art’ faculty presentations
 - Current ‘State of the Art’ student presentations
- Medical Article
 - understanding the medical literature
- EBM, Evidence Based Medicine
 - RCT, Randomized Controlled Trials

Library Instruction Module

Provide the knowledge and teach the skills that allow the students to:

- Define and articulate their information need
- Identify the best resource to answer the question
- Understand the tools for effective research
- Effectively search the medical literature
- Develop meta-searcher capabilities

Purpose of Study

Measure the effect of a Library Instruction Module on the

- **Comfort**

- **Knowledge**

- **Skills**

of first-year medical students using the medical library and its resources to search the medical literature.

Comfort with the library environment and technology

Knowledge of resources and the process of research

Skills in searching and accessing information

Research Design

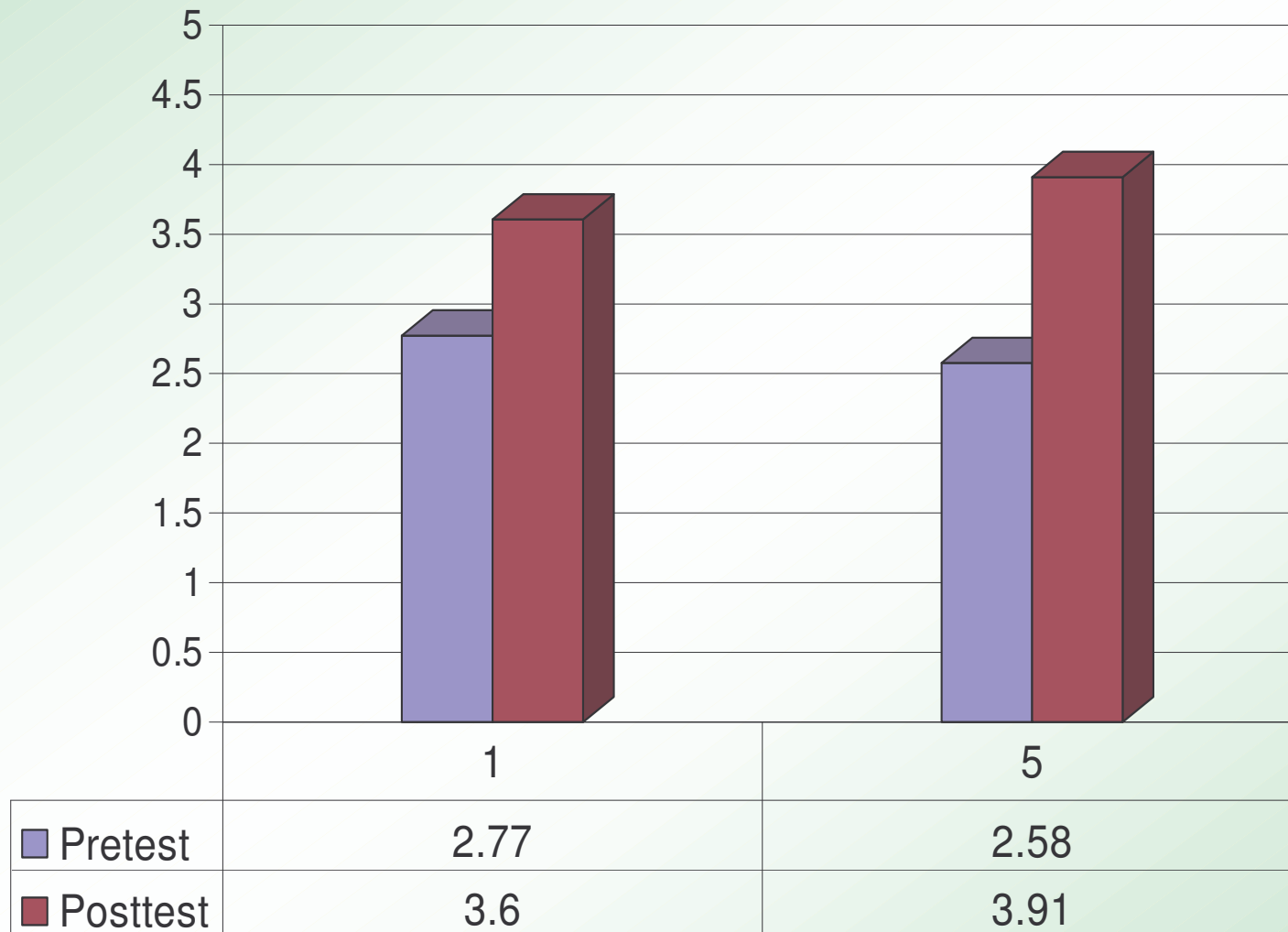
Measuring the effect of the Library Instruction Module

- Library Resources Component survey
 - 11 items (5 point likert scale) self-report
 - measure levels of **Comfort**, **Knowledge**, **Skills**
 - administered pretest / posttest
- 2 years of data
 - 2001 - 104 students
 - 2002 - 103 students

Library Resources Component Survey

- **Comfort Level:** using a medical library
using online medical library resources
- **Knowledge Level:** accessing an online medical library catalog
medical library services and resources
online medical information resources
searching an online medical database
online search strategies and techniques
- **Skills Level:** medical library research
searching online medical texts
searching online medical databases
word processing, spreadsheet, email

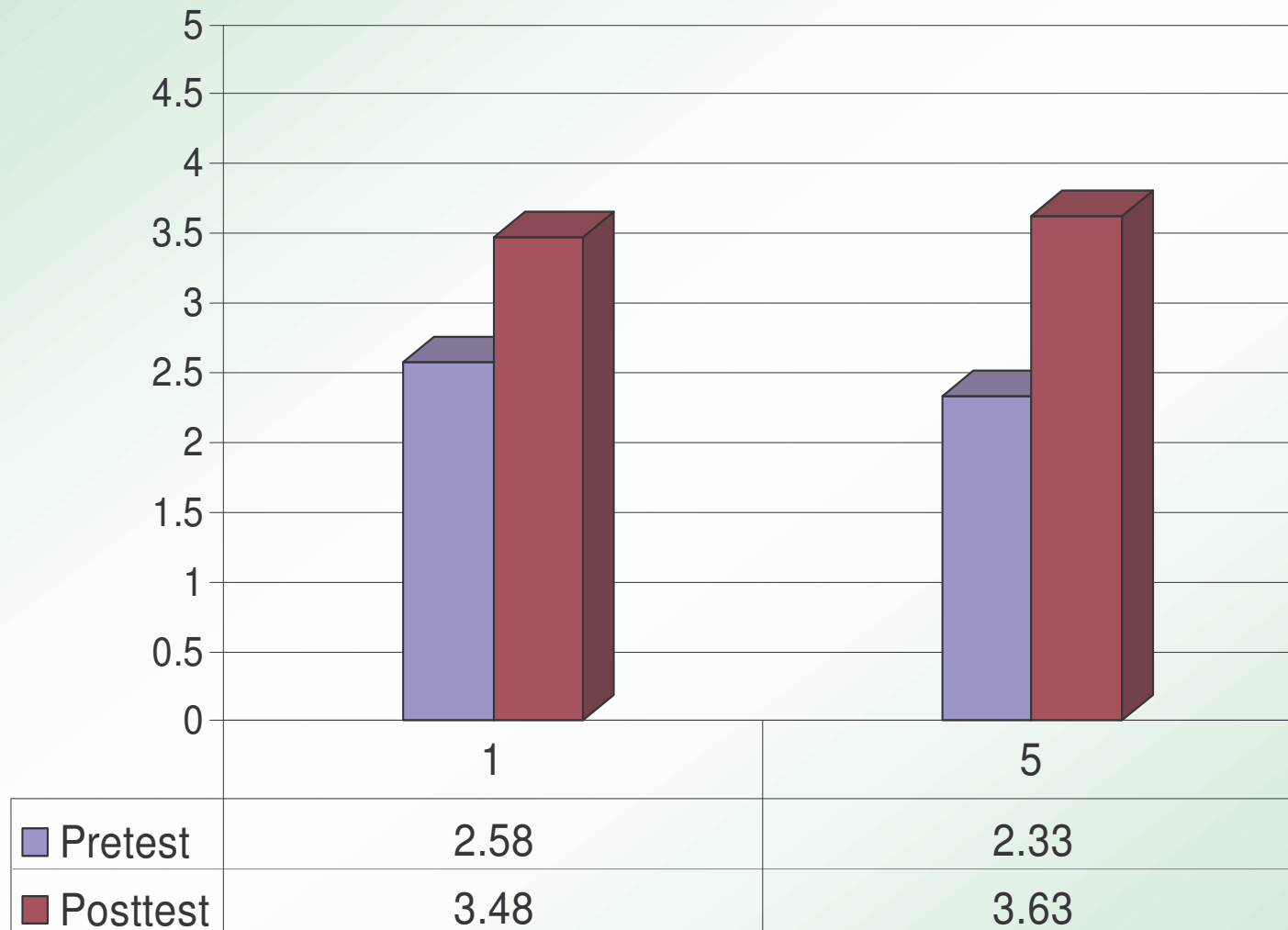
Comfort Level Means: 2001



Question 1. ...using a medical library

Question 5. ...using online medical resources

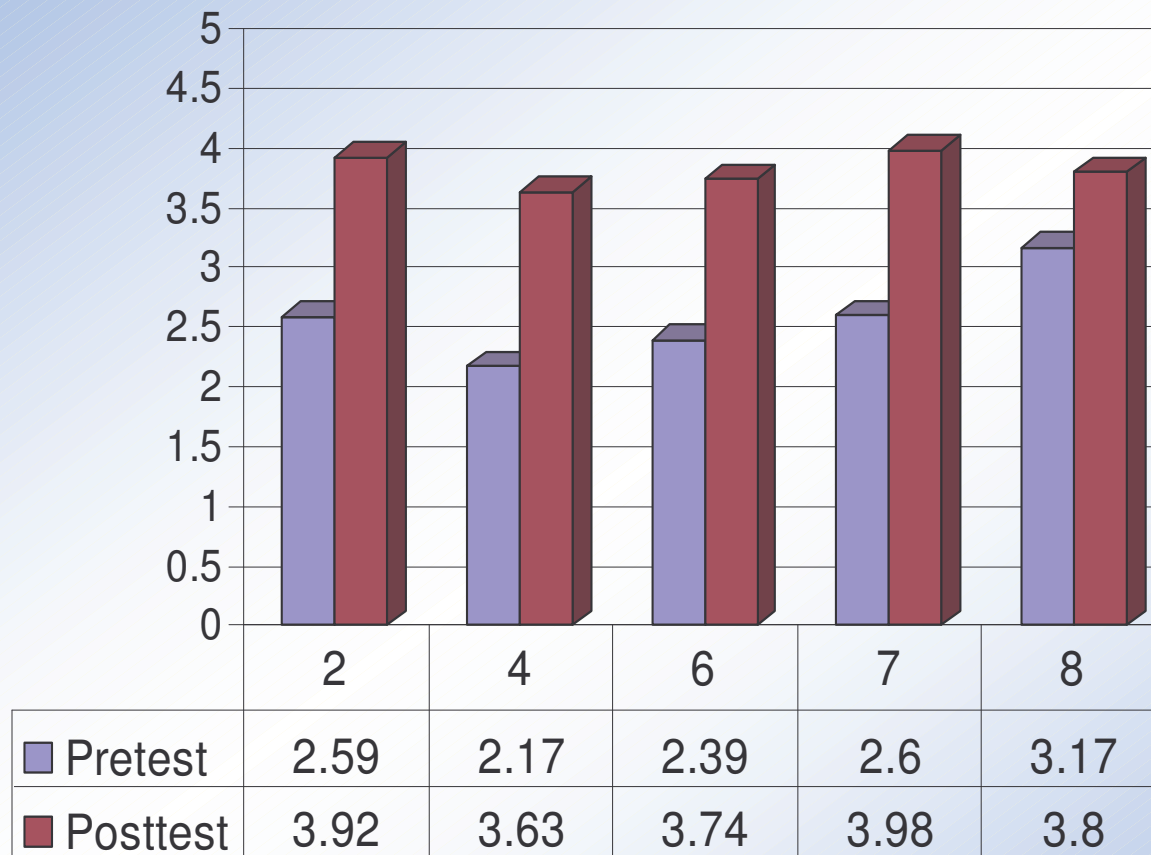
Comfort Level Means: 2002



Question 1. ...using a medical library

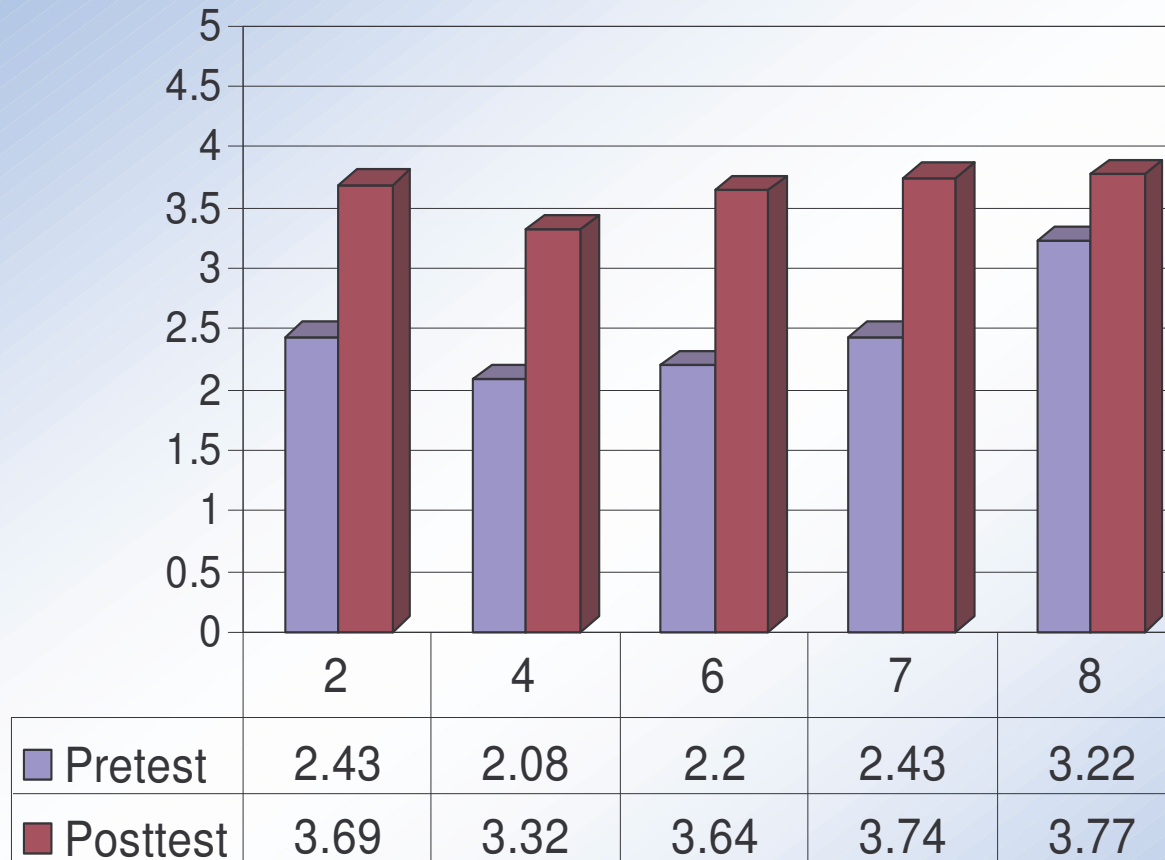
Question 5. ...using online medical resources

Knowledge Level Means: 2001



- Question 2. ...medical library catalog
- 4. ...services and resources
- 6. ...online resources
- 7. ...searching online databases
- 8. ...search strategies/techniques

Knowledge Level Means: 2002



Question 2. ...medical library catalog

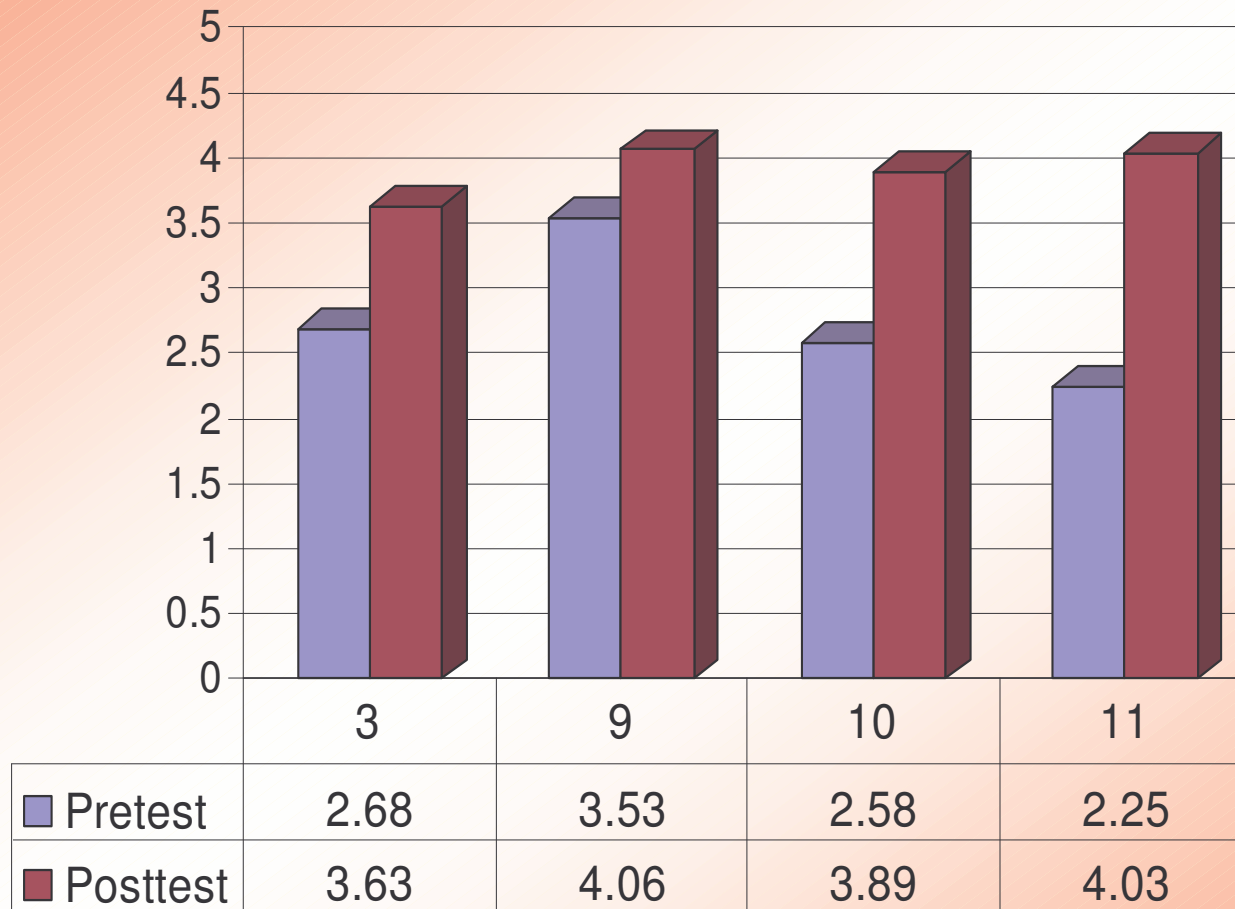
4. ...services and resources

6. ...online resources

7. ...searching online databases

8. ...search strategies/techniques

Skills Level Means: 2001



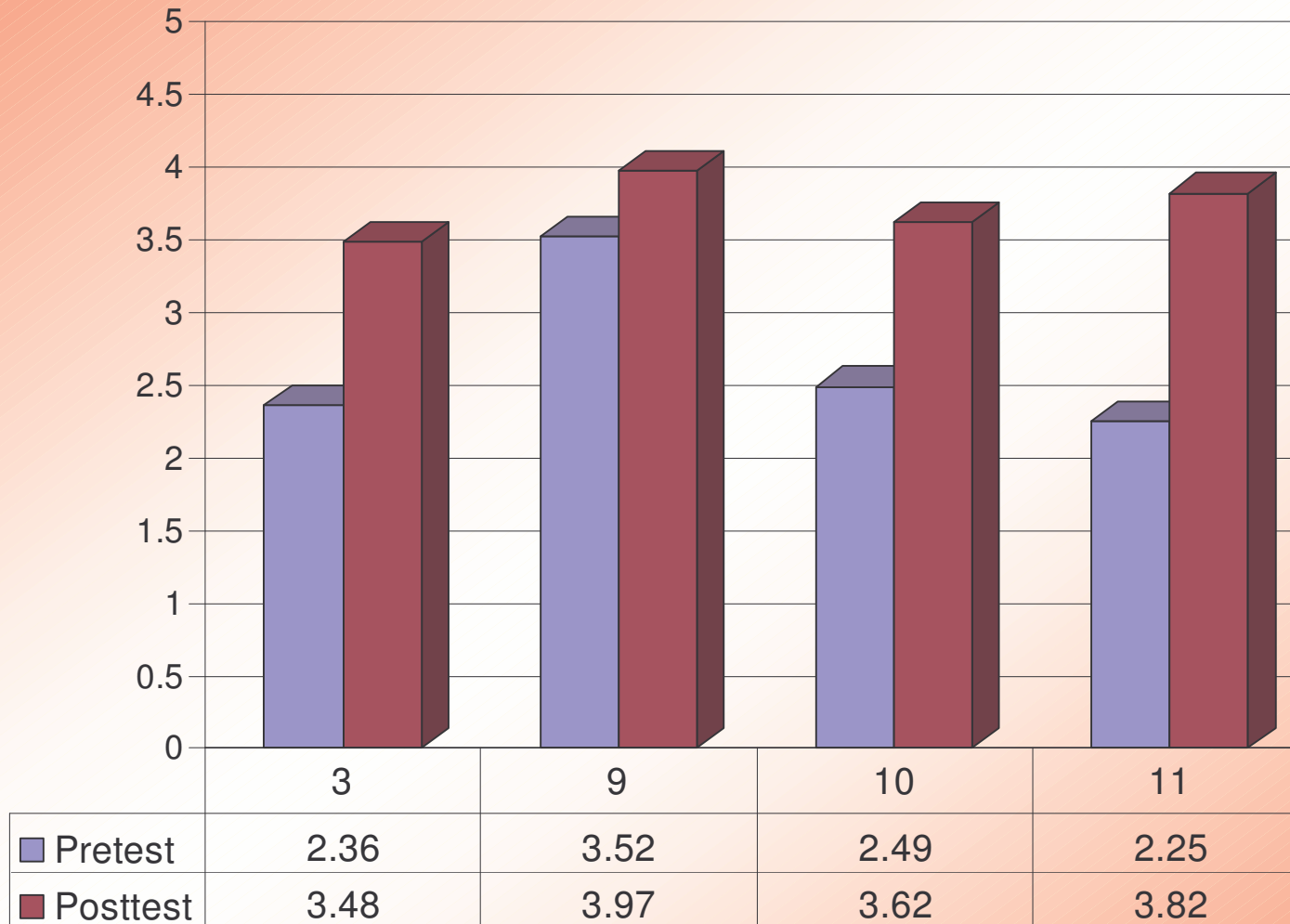
Question 3. ...medical library research

9. ...non-research computer skills

10. ...online medical texts

11. ...online medical databases

Skills Level Means: 2002



Question 3. ...medical library research

9. ...non-research computer skills

10. ...online medical texts

11. ...online medical databases

Conclusion

- the Library Instruction Module improves **Comfort**, **Knowledge**, and **Skills**
 - good for Med I's
 - good for library
- future applications
 - College of Nursing
 - College of Public Health
 - School of Physical Therapy
- future trends
 - continuing study, 2003 data already collected
 - survey questions may change
 - computer administered survey