

Substance Use Disorder Among Anesthesia Providers: An Educational Module

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Background

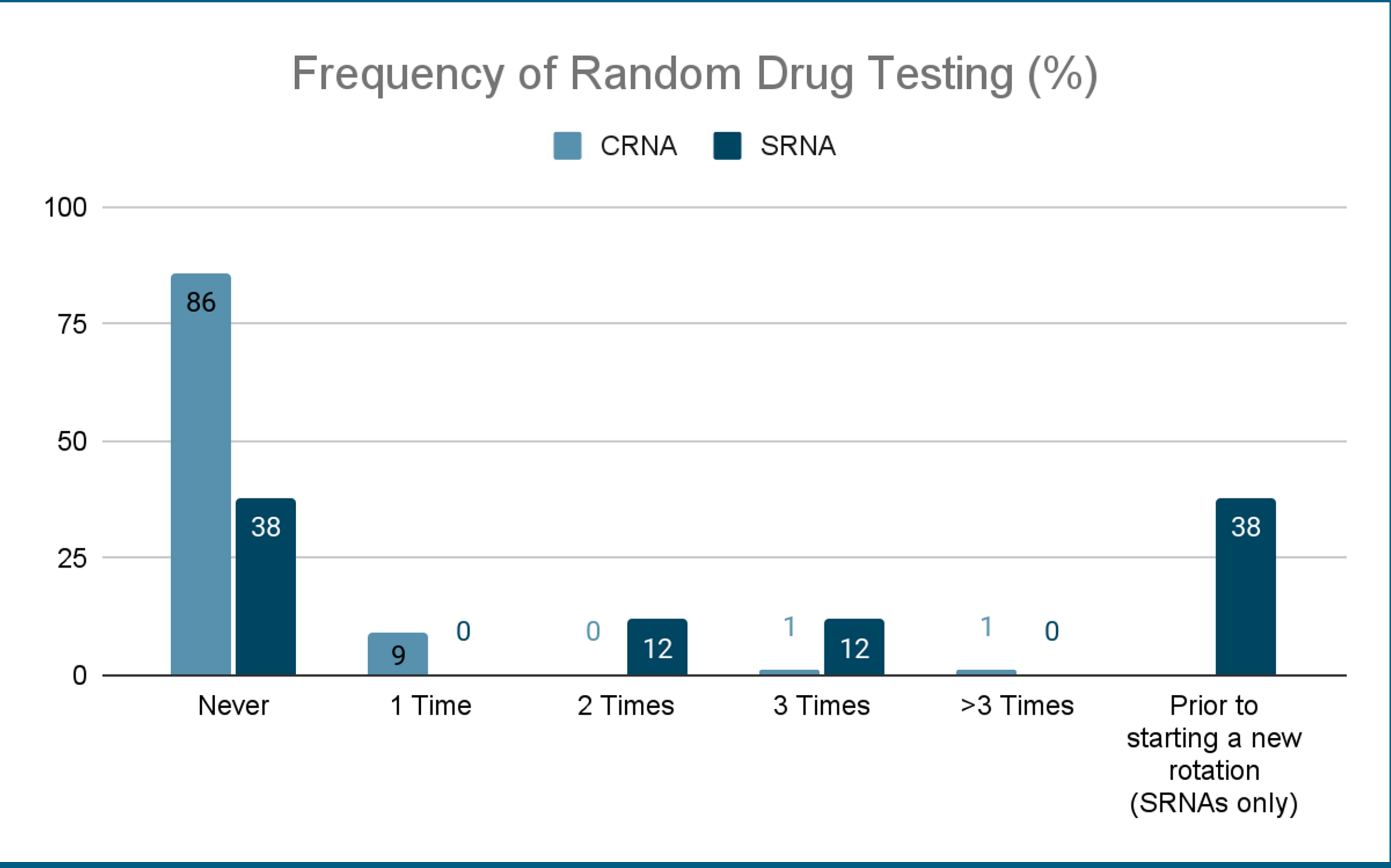
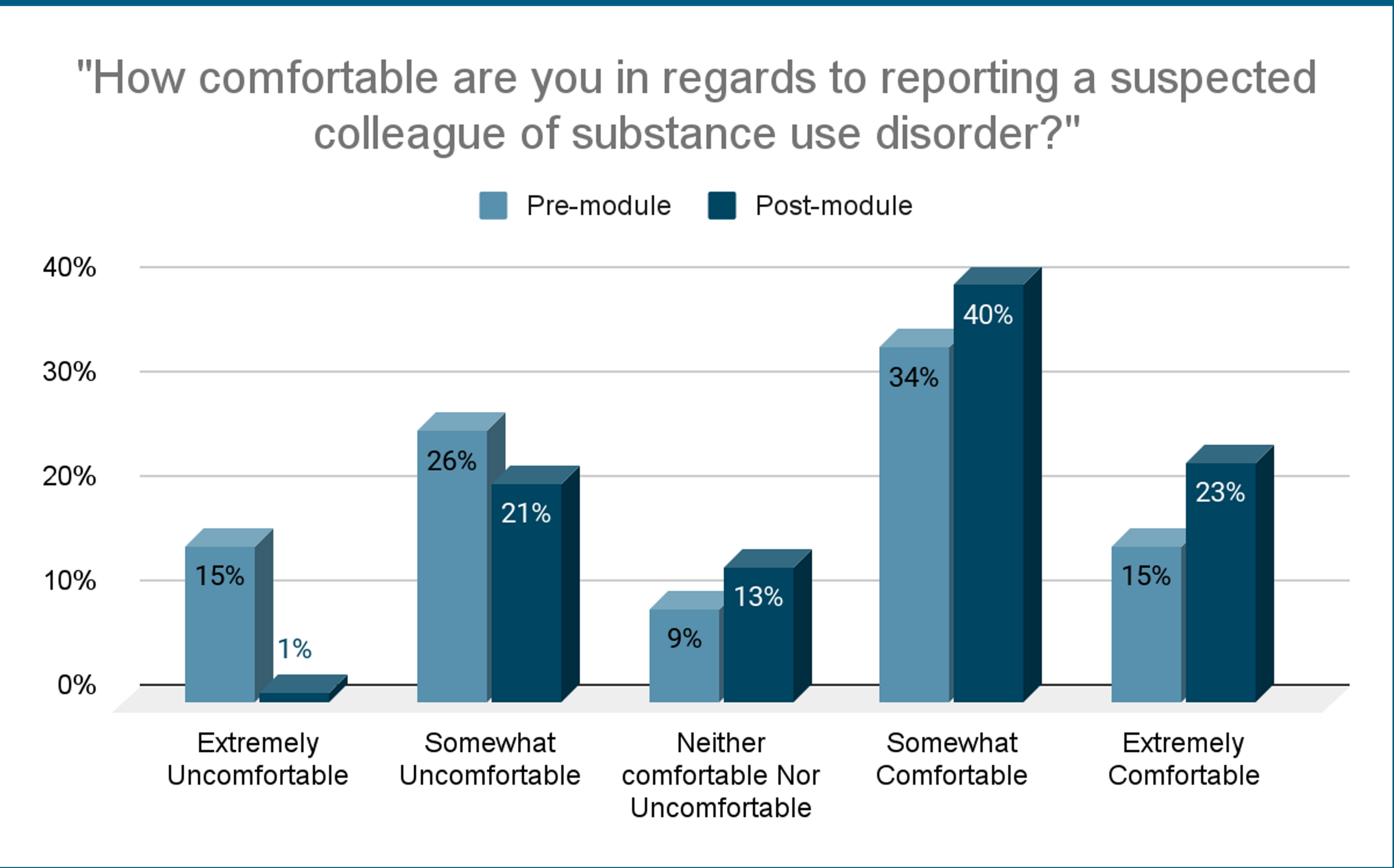
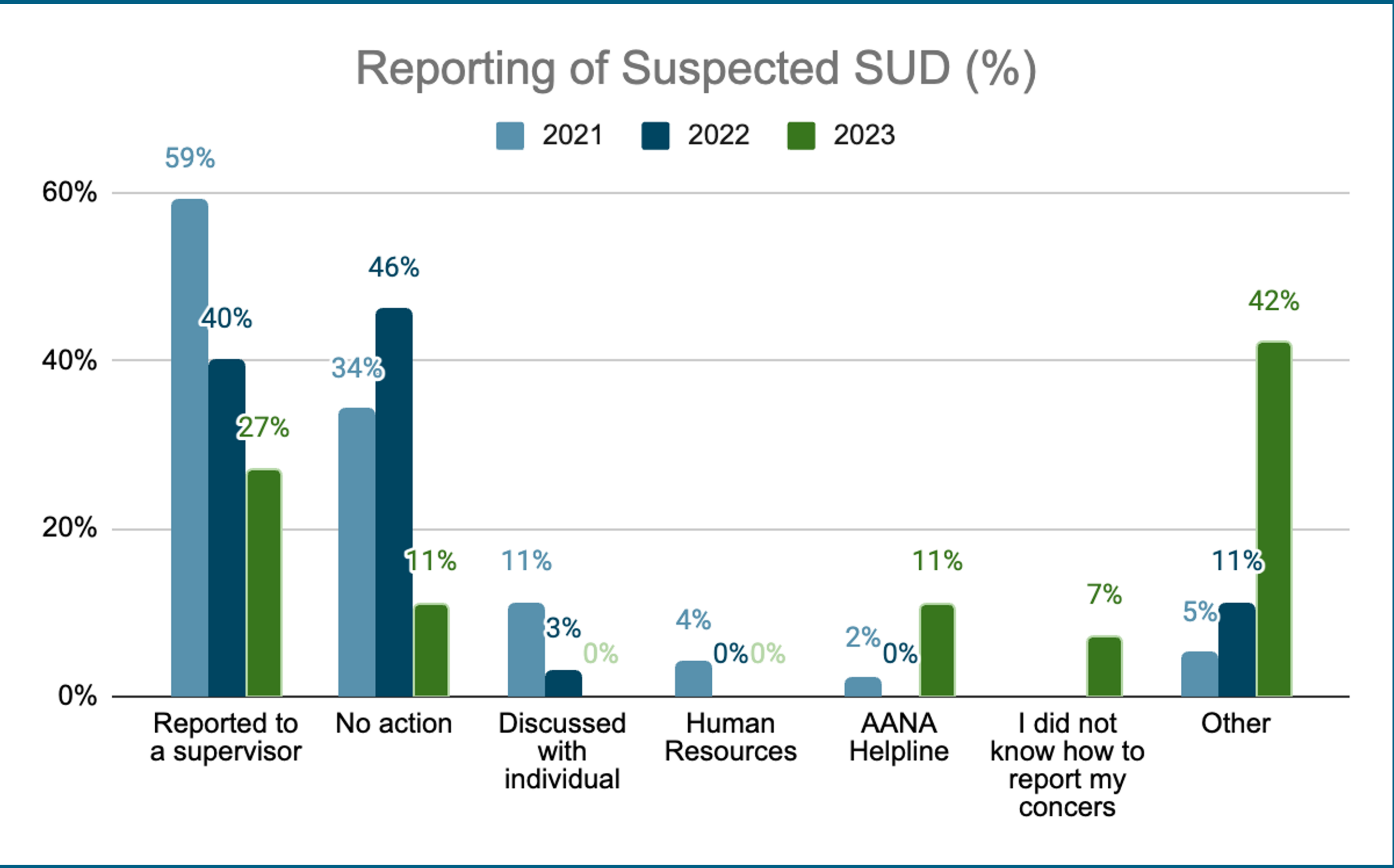
- **10 to 15%** of anesthesia providers will misuse a substance over the course of their careers
- **#1 occupational hazard for anesthesia professionals**
- Substance use is ignored and underreported due to social stigma and fear of being wrong
- 34% of those who suspected a peer of substance use did not report this concern to anyone due to their fear of false accusation

Project Aims

- Provide education on the prevalence of SUD among anesthesia provider
- Increase **awareness of SUD**
- Highlight available **resources for SUD**
- Increase confidence in an individual's ability to recognize and report a colleague suspected of SUD
- Highlight current practices for **random drug testing (RDT)** among anesthesia professionals
- Educate based on previous existing data regarding reporting of SUD

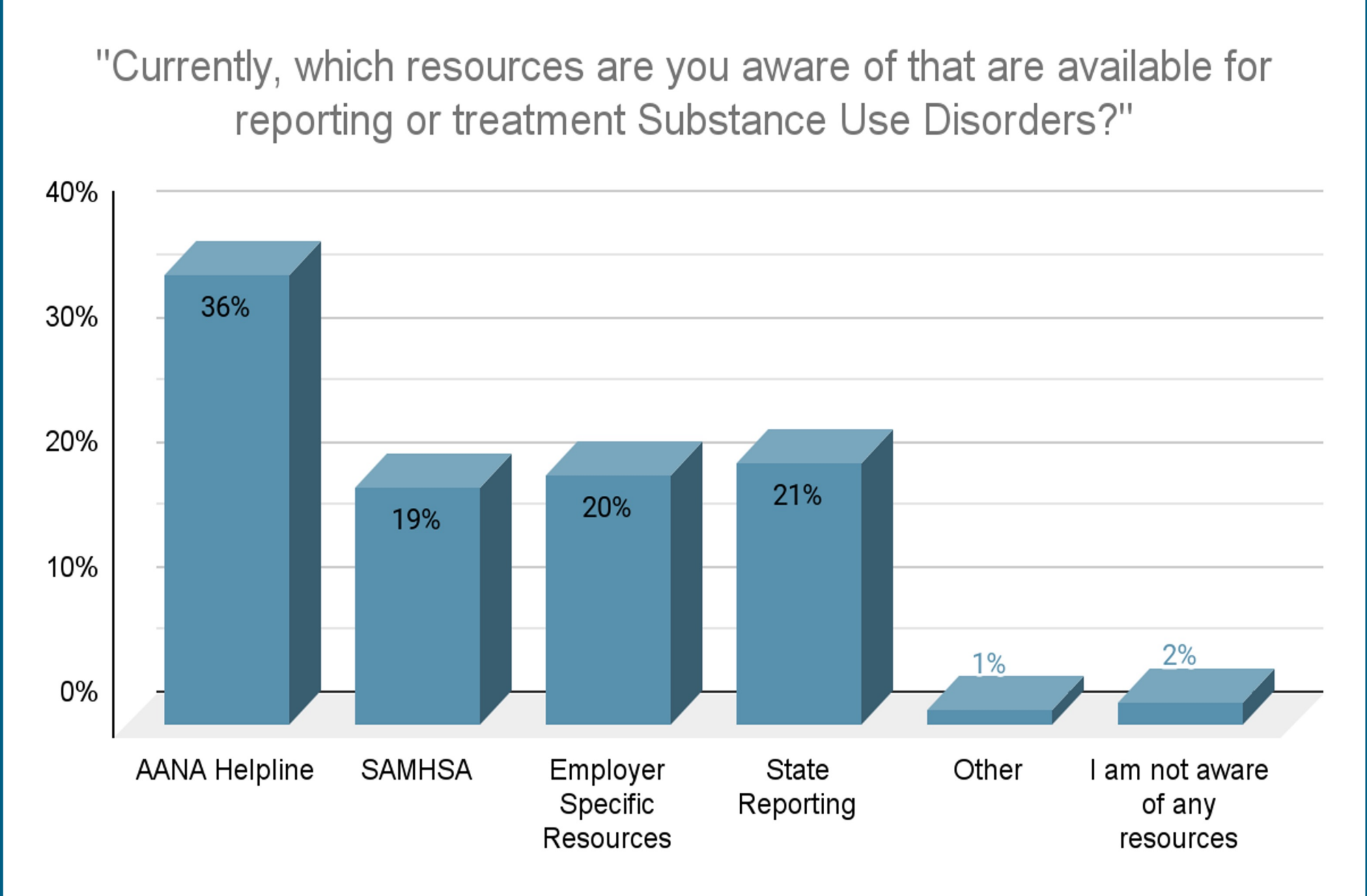
Methods

- IRB Exempt status obtained
- AANA approval received for 1.0 Class A Continuing Education (CE) credit
- Sample: Current CRNAs & SRNAs
 - Social Media
 - Illinois Association of Nurse Anesthetists (IANA)
- Created and distributed module via Teachable platform to provide education of SUD
- **Educational module** provided on:
 - Background education
 - Early detection of an impaired provider
 - Management of suspected SUD
 - Re-entry into practice
- Data collected using Qualtrics survey



Results

- 73 participants achieved 100% completion of the module
 - 86% CRNAs
 - 14% SRNAs
- Data shows a **decline in reporting SUD concerns** to a supervisor from 2021 to 2023
- Confidence for reporting a peer of suspected drug use increased
- Randomized Drug Testing **is not occurring** in any regular intervals.
 - **37% of SRNAs** report **never** receiving a random drug test
 - **87% of CRNAs** report **never** receiving a random drug test outside of pre-employment screenings



Discussion

- Peer reporting of suspected impaired providers has shown a continuous decline over the past three years
- There is a severe lack of random drug testing among CRNAs and SRNAs
- The organizational level and cultural environment must be addressed to promote change
- Focusing on the implementation of increasing the frequency of random drug testing would reduce the reliance on self and peer reporting

References

